DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 867.9111/386 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul (Allen) DATED Dec. 14,1932

TO NAME 1—1127 ...

767.83/1

REGARDING: Turkish-Egyptian relations.
Strained relations because of the incident at the Republic Day diplomatic banquet, Oct.29, involving the fez of the Egyptian Minister.
Matter is of importance as it gives the world an insight into the manners of the Turkish national hero - the President.

lec

DIGEST OF THE TURKISH PRESS

For the Period November 27 - December 10, 1932.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

The President.

The whole world, or at least that enlightened part of it which reads the Turkish press, now knows that at the Republic Day diplomatic banquet on October 29 there occurred something which bore the semblance of an incident involving the fez of the Egyptian Minister. For it is finally admitted both that the fez of the Minister was removed and that the Minister himself withdrew shortly afterward. The cause of these painful disclosures has been, as might have been expected, a perfidious British news agency, the Reuter Agency, which informed the Egyptian press of a contribution regarding the incident sent to the London DAILY HERALD by its Ankara correspondent. Although it is said by the MILLIYET that no such correspondent is known to exist, the Egyptian press is said to have become enraged and to have launched such a violent attack against Turkey that the Turkish press could no longer ignore the affair. The papers of December 5 were the first to take notice of the matter. They denied, of course, that anything in the nature of an incident had occurred and expressed surprise that a note dealing with the alleged incident was reported to be on the way from Cairo to Ankara. According to the story told by these papers, on the night of the Republic Day banquet it was very hot and the hall was

767.83
867.001 K31
pages 1-6

What Happens When Immortals Grow Jovial

crowded

crowded, with the result that the Gazi, in the course of chatting with the Egyptian Minister in "his usual affectionate manner", authorized the latter to remove his fez and make himself comfortable, the regulations governing the wearing of the fez requiring that that headdress may only be removed with the permission of the senior officer present. The papers went on to say that the excitement in Egypt could be attributed to a certain element interested in "breaking the ties of amity and fraternity binding the two countries", adding that the same element had some time ago resorted to the same tactics when annoyed by the fact that "Turkey" (is a) "country where the strictest measures are enforced against the smugglers of narcotic drugs". The latter remark applies presumably to Russell Paşa and his anti-narcotic activities and can only be amusing to one familiar with the narcotics situation in Turkey.

By December 7 the Egyptian note had reached Ankara for the capital reported that the reply to it had been discussed at the meeting of the People's Party that day. Neither the note nor the reply was published but it was admitted that the Egyptian Government had asked for an apology and the assurance that there would be no recurrence of such treatment of Egyptian diplomatic representatives. The Party made much of the occasion or at least is reported by the papers to have done so. After a speech by Mahmut Esat Bey, the fiery but ineffectual former Minister of Justice, who protested against the connection of such a matter with the name of "The Great Chieftain" "whose name is the property, not alone of a country and a race, but also of all the coming generations", the

Party

Party approved the government's proposed reply. In the course of the report on the Party caucus, the papers said that there was no incident at all in the sense that that term conveys; that every state is free to formulate such regulations as it likes governing ceremonious occasions; that anti-Turkish propaganda in Egypt has already led to the loss of important tobacco and fruit markets and that the moment has not only come but passed for putting an end to this situation; that Egyptian opinion has allowed itself to be aroused by "the wilful misrepresentation of a British news agency"; that a "simple gesture of courtesy has been moulded in malicious hands"; that the alleged victim himself, the Egyptian Minister, made no report to his government regarding the matter; that the friendliness of Turkey is made evident by her failure to demand capitulary rights in Egypt; that what happened constituted in no sense an insult to Egypt or the Egyptian diplomatic representative; and that there can be no apology offered or any future consideration given the subject. How much of this went into the reply, how much was actually said at the Party meeting and how much is mere newspaper material there is no means of determining which is available to the writer. It is probable that the reply was in the language of diplomacy and not in the idiom currently employed by members of the People's Party. It is also probable, however, that, since the incident involved the all-powerful father of the republic, who is as vain as any other popular hero, the Egyptians were given no other satisfaction than that afforded by the opportunity to express themselves convinced by the formal assurance

that

that nothing happened. Ankara says that the text of the reply will be published after its delivery at Cairo which cannot take place before December 20. It is added that the future situation will depend on what attitude the Egyptian Government decides to adopt toward the reply.

War is, of course, out of the question but there is, nevertheless, the possibility of a rupture of diplomatic relations. Egypt's international dignity being a matter regarding which doubts are entertainable, she is naturally sensitive on the score of that dignity and this fact may lead to a more emphatic expression of disapproval than might otherwise be the case. But whatever the outcome, the affair can hardly be of grave international importance. It is, of importance, however, in the sense that it gives the world an insight into the manners of the Turkish national hero. Being instrumental in the removal of the headdress of a guest, particularly when that guest is a foreign diplomat and his headdress has a connection with the prestige of a friendly state, is a kind of conduct which constitutes an innovation even in "the Turkey of the Gazi". Heretofore, on formal occasions at any rate, the great democrat and his entourage had been reasonably successful in avoiding anything downright offensive. Here, however, is the action of a small-town "he-man" whose principal obsession is getting "liquored up" and "showing off". In the present instance, he doubtless did not intend to insult either the Egyptian Government or the Egyptian Minister. On the contrary, he probably had neither the one nor the

other

other very clearly in mind at all. He was simply full of alcohol and of the aggressiveness which alcohol gives and he obeyed an impulse to play "smart Aleck" just as thousands of intoxicated fraternity members have obeyed impulses to knock out street lights or ring door bells. The difference is that, unlike the fraternity members, he is apparently unready to make amends. He simply turns over such embarrassment as is caused to those who compose the government which he heads and who have now shouldered the responsibility of pacifying the Egyptian Government, subject, it would seem, to the condition that, whatever be the solution arrived at, it shall not reflect upon the sacrosanct cause of the trouble.

This account would not be complete without a word about the Egyptian Minister, Abd-ul-Malek Hamza Bey. He is much better known for his soft amiability and his moonlight pyjama parties than for any deep grasp of international procedure. He is a person who is on terms of extreme cordiality with everybody and one with whom anybody is likely to grow familiar on an occasion when the flowing bowl is much in evidence as it was at the banquet on Republic Day. He appears to have acted on this occasion with even less than his usual strength of character, first allowing his fez to be removed, then after reflection going home in protest and finally failing to inform his government. The press attributes to him a statement to the effect that he did not consider himself insulted but, being uncertain what his diplomatic colleagues might think (if he showed no spirit at all), thought it better to go home. He appears at this moment to be entirely "on the fence", allowing Cairo and Ankara

to

to fight the matter out without his intervention. He is known to have had a very good time in Turkey, notably at Istanbul, and it is not impossible that he contemplates with no pleasure a prospective separation from his present post, even in the interest of his country's prestige. On the whole, he appears to have been specially made for handling this incident badly. In the first place, he could probably have prevented the removal of the fez by showing average firmness although it must be confessed that the Gazi is described as having been drunk enough to be capable of anything. In the second place, having elected to notice the matter by going home, he should have, one would think, carried the decision out by continuing as far as Cairo, telegraphing his government of his intentions and the reasons therefor. However, apparently in the weak hope that the whole thing would blow over and Cairo never hear of it, he seems to have dropped the matter once he had removed himself from the scene. Unfortunately for him, the Republic Day observance was much too hilarious this year for the foreign correspondents to ignore it entirely. So the news got to Cairo, possibly including mention of the fact that the Great Gazi did not show himself at all perturbed by the withdrawal of the Egyptian Minister but went right on, "in his usual affectionate manner" aforementioned, kissing at least two of his male guests during the subsequent proceedings, the fortunate gentlemen being, according to reports current, the French naval attaché and an American surgeon.

Necmettin Sadik Bey of the AKŞAM has assigned himself the task of providing a "reply to Captain Harold Armstrong",

the

the author of "The Grey Wolf, Mustafa Kemal: A Study of the Private Life of a Dictator". Sadik Bey quotes the author to prove the greatness of the Gazi in the military and political field and claims that "matters pertaining to his private life, his character, his morality are without any historical value". He says that "Harold Armstrong"... was a sad figure,...given to luxury and orgies, perverted, given to that passion so detested by the English - gambling, ...sometimes forgot to pay his debts, loved amorous adventures..." As for the Gazi, the term "dictator" "is very displeasing to the Gazi and he even feels a real horror toward it...The Gazi is not a dictator but a Chief of State, the most democratic existing in the world; a chief who adores the principle of popular sovereignty, who draws his strength from the conscience of the Turkish people whom he esteems above everything else..." The Armstrong book has not been read but the writer has been told that it is a book written primarily to sell to that large and growing majority which craves "sexy" reading matter. If so, it is a book not worth reading. The same applies to Necmettin Sadik Bey's reply. The portions of it seen are as absurd in their adulation as the Armstrong book is said to be absurd in its denigration and, it must be added by one who has lived several years under the Gazi's beneficent reign, there is certainly as little justification for adulation as for denigration.

The Armstrong Book

Some time ago when Froughi Khan, the Persian Minister of Foreign Affairs, was in Ankara and signed certain treaties

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 867.911/33 FOR #266

FROM Turkey (Sherrill) DATED Dec.20, 1932

TO NAME

1-1127 ero

767.83/2

REGARDING: Anti-British attitude of the Turkish press. Suspicions of the Turks that the British stirred up the so-called "fez" incident to create misunderstandings between the Turks and Egyptians.

W1

Istanbul, December 20, 1932.

No. 266

SUBJECT: Turkish suspicion of British interference in Fez incident.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 265 of December 7, 1932, reporting certain anti-French and anti-British episodes in a new Turkish film (the bayoneting of Turkish soldiers on their barrack cots by French and British soldiers, which episode has since then been cut out), I beg to report that the press is beginning to show indications of a hardening of Turkey's attitude toward both France and Great Britain. In my No. 262 of December 16, 1932, I told of the coincidences noted by Turks between the refusal of France to pay $19,000,000 to us December 15 and the news that day received by Turkey of the final adjustment in Paris fixing a large

part

part of the Ottoman Imperial Debt upon the Turkish Republic. This morning's REPUBLIQUE (French version
1/ of the DJUMHOURIET), copy enclosed, contains a front-page article reporting to come from Vienna upon the fez incident (see my No. 843 of December 7, 1932), but really playing up for Egyptian consumption the thought that Turkey regrets that England has not yet completely freed Egypt. The significant fact connecting this with all the numerous newspaper fez incident articles published here is that the news of that incident first appeared in a London newspaper, and the Turkish press would now seem to hint that it was the British in Egypt who are hoping thereby to stir up misunderstandings between Egypt and Turkey. A great many Egyptians still continue the old practice of coming up to the Bosphorus during the summer months, and in my conversations with a number of them at the Egyptian Legation and elsewhere at Therapia and in Istanbul last summer it was evident that they are very touchy about the fact that although they are entirely independent, Great Britain still maintains a considerable armed force lodged in barracks at Cairo and elsewhere in Egypt. Two of them remarked to me with some bitterness that they supposed Great Britain would continue to guard the approaches to the Suez Canal by controlling Palestine, Egypt and the Island of Cyprus, just as by the West Indies, British Honduras and British Guiana, they have their naval stations convenient to our Panama Canal and the mouth of our Mississippi River. Yunus Nadi, the editor of the REPUBLIQUE and DJUMHOURIET is not only an important deputy, but also is very close to the President of the Turkish Republic.

Republic. The fact that he publishes on his front page today this story about an anonymous Egyptian in Vienna makes this significant as the first intimation to Turkish readers that their Government in negotiating over the fez incident with the Egyptian Government has suspected the British of wishing thereby to diminish Egyptian friendship for Turkey. I have already reported several times that when I visited the Gazi in Yalova last summer, he showed decided feeling against the French and English armed interference when he was fighting the Greeks in Anatolia. If it be true that he has base for his suspicion that the British press is using this fez incident to arouse the only break in the circle of friendships with which the new Turkey has surrounded itself, then we may expect considerable developments of this anti-British tendency in the Turkish press and people.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES H. SHERRILL.

Enclosure:

1. Clipping from LA REPUBLIQUE, December 30, 1932.

PARIS

701.1
CHS:FM

LA RÉPUBLIQUE, Istanbul,
December 20, 1932.

Ce que pense de nous la classe éclairée de l'Egypte

Vienne. 14. — Depuis huit à dix jours, je lis et je relis dans le «Djumhouriyet» : un incident a surgi à Ankara au sujet du fez de l'ambassadeur de l'Egypte ; des notes ont été échangées entre les deux gouvernements ; la presse du Caire se livre à des publications incendiaires contre nous. Me trouvant loin de la patrie, je ne suis pas très au courant des détails de cette question qui a cependant attiré toute mon attention. J'ai suivi de près tout ce qui a été écrit à ce sujet et je dois avouer que j'en suis resté énervé. Les solides liens d'amitié qui de tout temps unissaient la Turquie à l'Egypte, courraient-ils le danger de se rompre pour une aussi futile question de fez ? Si l'on s'en remettait aux publications de la presse égyptienne, ce danger existerait.

Une presse libre et indépendante reflète réellement l'opinion de la société. Tout écrit publié dans cette presse, ne peut s'adresser qu'à la masse d'où cependant émane la pensée qui l'a dirigé. Toute publication qui se répète dans le même sens ne peut point être interprêtée comme une conviction, ou comme une manifestation de la nervosité des masses. Que faut-il donc faire dans un pareil cas ?

Contre cette partie de la presse égyptienne qui, malgré toutes les explications données, ne cesse de se rallier aux attaques qu'on ne cesse de faire contre nous devons - nous répondre sur le même ton ?

Avant que de se décider à ce sujet, il serait plus juste de sonder au préalable la pensée d'Egyptiens éclairés qui ont appris à réfléchir en toute indépendance dans ce pays de soleil brûlant, si sympathique, mais qui malheureusement n'a pu encore récupérer toute sa liberté. Je suis vraiment étonné que mes collègues de Stamboul aient pu négliger jusqu'ici ce point. On tirerait cependant grand profit à s'aboucher avec ces Egyptiens pour une mise au point de la situation. En ce qui me concerne, ici, j'ai agi, dans cet ordre d'idées. J'ai donc causé longuement de cette affaire avec un égyptien étudiant à l'Université de Vienne. Comme je ne connaissais aucun égyptien, j'ai choisi à tout hasard le nom de mon interlocuteur parmi ceux des étudiants inscrits à l'Université.

Avant de relater la conversation que j'ai eue avec cet étudiant, je dois faire remarquer qu'aucun égyptien à Vienne, ne porte le fez. L'ambassadeur d'Egypte lui-même ne porte que le chapeau. J'ai rencontré cet ambassadeur, très souvent dans les réunions officielles ; il a toujours la tête découverte. Mon interlocuteur qui ne porte également que le chapeau, apprenant ma qualité de journaliste, m'a prié de taire son nom. L'ayant mis au courant de la question, il m'a dit :

«Je reconnais la Turquie comme un guide, ayant montré la voie de la liberté et de la civilisation à tous les pays de l'Orient. La Turquie est une entité qui relie moralement l'Asie à l'Europe, comme elle le fait d'ailleurs géographiquement. Toute nouvelle pensée, tout nouveau progrès ne

(O V E R)

La visite du Ghazi à l'exposition économique de la Femme

Le Président du Conseil Ismet pacha après l'inauguration de l'exposition

Ankara, 19. — Le président de la République a visité hier soir la première exposition économique de la Femme, organisée à l'Institut des filles «Ismet Pacha» à Ankara.

En quittant l'Institut où il resta près d'une heure et demie, le Ghazi félicita vivement les organisateurs :

— C'est une exposition très réussie, dit-il. Les ouvrages exposés démontrent un sérieux travail et une fiévreuse activité.»

Le Ghazi félicita en particulier le ministre de l'instruction publique, Réchid Ghalib bey qui l'accompagnait.

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 701.8367/4 FOR despatch #254

FROM Turkey (Sherrill) DATED Dec.13,1932

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

767.83/3

REGARDING: Strained relations between Egypt and Turkey caused by Act of the Turkish President at Independence Day banquet, Oct. 29, in Ankara, when he requested the Egyptian Minister at close of dinner to remove his fez

ma

Istanbul, December 13, 1932.

No. 254

SUBJECT: The Egyptian Minister's Pen.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

King Fuad of Egypt has caused the forwarding of a severe note to the Turkish Government criticizing the act of the Turkish President at the Independence Day banquet, October 29, in Ankara, when he requested the Egyptian Minister at the close of dinner to remove his fez. The sending of this note has been rumored for some time, but I have refrained from reporting the incident involved as it was both petty and unfortunate. The Egyptian Minister sat at table about eight or nine places to the left of the Turkish President. Opposite to the President sat Tewfeuqhi Rhem, the Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs, who had come to Ankara as the guest of the

of the Turkish Republic. I sat diagonally across from the President, a little to his right, so that I could hear what follows. Just at the very end of dinner he inquired across the table of the Persian (but in the kindliest manner) why it was that the Persians, with all their modern reforms, still wore the fez, and the Persian replied in equally friendly manner that he supposed it was a matter of custom. The President then arose, with this fez matter fresh in his mind, and (after giving his arm to the wife of the President of the National Assembly) turned left and of course immediately saw the fez on the head of the Egyptian Minister, especially noticeable as it was the only one worn among the 150 dinner guests. The table was shaped like a short-armed "U", and the President to reach the door, had to pass all the way around the outer side of the "U", during which time the rest of us stood in our places, so everybody saw the incident that followed. He stopped before the Egyptian Minister, exchanged a few words with him, leaned forward and kissed him on the cheek (a Near Eastern form of salutation when one desires to compliment a friend) and the next thing we knew, the red fez was off the Egyptian's head and was being carried out of the room on a silver salver. Some say that the President himself took the fez off the Minister's head, but its removal happened so swiftly that from where I stood one could not be sure who removed it. One could see that the exchange of remarks was in perfect good humor. The President then passed

on

on and out the door; we all followed him, and the Egyptian Minister promptly went home. It was rumored next day in Ankara that Numan Bey, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, immediately followed the Minister to his hotel to apologize for the incident, but I can testify that it must have been later in the evening, because soon after we came out into the ball room Numan Bey came to bring me to the President (for presentation by him to Marshal Fevzi, the Commanding General, and thank me for my speeches in America) and thereafter Numan Bey stayed with me a considerable time for conversation with a couple of Cabinet Officers. The Egyptian Minister has made himself very popular at this post, and all the diplomatic corps here would regret if this incident causes his transfer to another post. There has been much gossip about the affair, but with the passage of time we had hoped that the whole matter would blow over.

The press here has not helped toward a comfortable adjustment of this episode, for at first they denied it took place at all, then said it was only a suggestion to make the Egyptian Minister more comfortable and later said that all diplomats changed from uniforms to evening dress between the dinner and the ball, which is equally untrue. A real complication, however, is the well authenticated story that the Egyptian Minister failed to report the incident to his Government and that they only heard of it through a London newspaper story.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES H. SHERRILL.

701.1/710
CHS:FM

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

767.83/4

SEE 781.8567/5 FOR Despatch #652

FROM Egypt (Jardine) DATED Jan. 6, 1933

TO NAME

1—1127 o.f.o.

REGARDING:

The tarboush incident discussed with special reference to the insistence of the King that an apology be made and the relations of Turkey, Egypt and Great Britain commented upon.

M

Cairo, January 6, 1933.

No. 632.

SUBJECT: THE TARBOUSH INCIDENT.

QUINTUPLICATE.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that, as an apparent result of the intervention of the High Commissioner, the Egyptian Government has been induced to close the so-called tarboush incident growing out of the request made on October 29th by Mustapha Kemal Pasha of the Egyptian Minister in Turkey to remove his fez at a public reception.

The

The incident is understood to have provoked the particular indignation of the King and there is strong reason to believe that the Egyptian Government would have been satisfied with the oral explanations originally offered the Egyptian Government by the Turkish Charge d'Affaires in Cairo had it not been for the insistence of the King that an apology be demanded of the Turkish Government.

As the Department is aware from my despatch No. 820 of June 19, 1931, there has for some time existed a far from friendly feeling on the part of the Palace towards the Turkish Republic. The action of the Ghazi in requesting the removal of the tarbouch of the Egyptian Minister in Turkey only served to fan the flames of resentment nourished by the King against a regime which, in its republicanism and in its laical attitude in respect of Islamism, represents those tendencies which are most obnoxious to a sovereign bent upon conserving the Royal tradition and the pure faith of Islam.

Following the oral explanations of the Turkish Charge d'Affaires to the Egyptian Government in which he sought to explain that no offense was intended by the incident, the Egyptian Government made known its desire, nevertheless, for an apology. When it became apparent that a formal apology was not likely to be forthcoming the Egyptian Government addressed a note to the Turkish Charge d'Affaires in the course of which a request was made for assurances from his Government that a similar incident would not occur in the future.

In

In view of this development and the concern of the Turkish Charge with the unyielding attitude of the Egyptian Government and the likelihood that it might lead perhaps to the breaking of diplomatic relations with Turkey on the part of Egypt, he called on December 15th on the High Commissioner to discuss the matter with him personally and informally.

The High Commissioner is understood to have informed the Charge, Sevki Bey, that the Turkish Government should give some satisfaction to the Egyptian Government, a course which, the Charge explained, it would be impossible for his Government to follow as it would be an admission that the Chasi had been at fault.

On the 18th Sevki Bey delivered to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the reply of the Turkish Government which was conciliatory in tone but which failed to recede in any respect from the previous Turkish interpretation of the incident.

On December 20th in an informal conversation of the Secretary of the Legation, Mr. Childs, with Mr. Campbell, Counsellor of the Residency, the former suggested that the Serbough incident, and the intimation that the Egyptian Government might break off diplomatic relations with Turkey in consequence, raised an interesting question regarding the freedom of Egypt to take such a step as that of the breaking of diplomatic relations with a Power which was on friendly relations with Great Britain without British sanction.

Mr.

Mr. Campbell replied that the question was indeed a very interesting one and, after no little thought, added that he was disposed to express off-hand the personal opinion that the special relation existing between Great Britain and Egypt would be interpreted by his Government as entitling it to be consulted before the Egyptian Government might go so far as to sever diplomatic relations with another Power. He added, however, with a smile, that it was quite possible, on the other hand, that the Egyptian Government might consider itself entirely free to take such a step without consulting with his Government. Subsequently, the Assistant Judicial Adviser expressed the informal opinion that there was nothing in the Declaration of February 28, 1922, which bound the Egyptian Government juridically to consult with the British Government under such circumstances but that there was no doubt that sufficient warrant could be found on general political grounds arising out of the special position of Great Britain in Egypt to justify the assertion of Great Britain's right to be consulted in the matter of the severance of diplomatic relations by the Egyptian Government with another Power.

Subsequently, on December 20th, the Egyptian Government delivered its reply to the note of the Turkish Government on the basis of which the incident was closed and at the same time there appeared in the EGYPTIAN GAZETTE an article which would appear to have been inspired by the Residency announcing the delivery of the Egyptian note with the comment:

"It

"It is not yet known whether the Egyptian Government have accepted the Turkish Government's version of this incident, but it is expected that the affair will shortly be allowed to recede into the obscurity from which it apparently should never have been dragged . . . .

" . . . . . The exaggerated rumours concerning a 'diplomatic incident' between the two countries, accompanied by threats of a 'breaking off of relations' are to be deplored."

The Turkish Charge has informed me that both the King and the Prime Minister have expressed the utmost resentment towards him for his action in approaching the High Commissioner in the matter, the Prime Minister having stated, it is reported, that it was unheard of that a representative of the Turkish Government should ever have felt under the necessity of appealing for British intervention in a matter affecting Egypt and Turkey.

On January 2, 1933, Nevzi Bey had occasion to meet the High Commissioner socially when the High Commissioner informed him that he had fulfilled the promise made to him to discuss the matter in "a personal capacity" with the Prime Minister and that he was happy that the incident was closed. According to the Turkish Charge, the High Commissioner made no commitment whatsoever on the occasion of his only interview with him on the subject on December 13th. When Nevzi Bey remarked to the High Commissioner on January 2nd that, while the incident had been closed, it had only been accomplished at the expense of an embitterment of the feeling of the King and the Prime Minister towards Turkey and towards him as well, the High Commissioner is reported to have received the news

in

in a manner which has tended to persuade Zewki Bey that the Residency is not altogether displeased that the relations between Egypt and Turkey, far from having been improved as a result of the Turbouch incident, have been perceptibly worsened.

Respectfully yours,

W. H. Jardine.

Copies to Embassy, London; Embassy, Istanbul; and M.I.S., Paris.

File No. 800/710.
JHS/jvo

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

767.83/5

SEE 867.9111/387 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul (Allen) DATED Jan.11, 1933

TO NAME

1—1127 ers

REGARDING: "Fez incident", which concerns the removal of the Egyptian Minister's fez by the President.

Matter appears to have been settled.

Wi

DIGEST OF THE TURKISH PRESS

For the Period December 11 - January 7, 1935.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

The President.

The storm caused by the incident of the removal of the fez of the Egyptian Minister during the Republic Day banquet on October 29 would appear to have blown itself out and subsided in large part.

767.83

The Fez Incident

Ankara's reply to the Egyptian note of protest would appear to have reached Cairo toward December 17 and by December 28 a second Egyptian note and the Turkish reply thereto were being mentioned by the papers. "The reassuring tone" of the second Egyptian note was emphasized and the Anatolian agency expressed the opinion that with the Turkish reply "the question....is now amicably liquidated".

In the meantime, however, the Egyptian Minister had found and seized upon a further opportunity to demonstrate his ineptitude. Coming down from the capital to Istanbul on December 18 to have his ears looked after, he was naturally fallen upon by the reporters and had the misfortune to make a statement on December 19 to a representative of the CUMHURIYET. In that statement, he deplored the great amount of publicity the incident had received, and notably the distorted accounts published by the British journalists, reiterated that he had not considered himself insulted and had so reported to his government and asserted that the incident no longer existed. Seeing that these remarks were made while the matter was still the subject of correspondence between the two governments, it is

701.8367

little

little to the credit of the Minister's diplomatic reputation that, as eventually developed, he made them "not for publication". The CUMHURIYET promptly published the statement verbatim and so did the other papers and when the Minister denied in writing that he had made any such statement, or even had granted an interview since October 29, he was dealt with most crudely. The CUMHURIYET, "to put an end to any misunderstanding", published the following:

"His Excellency the Minister did positively converse with one of our collaborators on December 19. The fault of the latter consisted, not of inventing a story, but of publishing statements made by the Minister with instructions not to print them in our paper. We again express our regrets for this fault."

A similar item throwing the blame on the CUMHURIYET's representative but taking the most casual attitude toward the latter's conduct appeared in the MILLIYET. In brief, the unethical action of the reporter was treated as of minor importance whereas the written denial of the Minister was, for all practical purposes, branded as a lie, which it happened to be. To the general run of chief of diplomatic mission this would, to say the least, be an embarrassing, and even a humiliating, situation. The Egyptian Minister cannot, however, be asserted to belong to the general run of diplomat and it is not possible to apply an ordinary rule in attempting to arrive at the state of his official and personal feelings. He seems to have learned one thing, however, namely, that it is well "to lay off" talking and corresponding with Turkish journalists, for up to the close of the period under review there has not appeared a fresh syllable attributing a written or spoken

statement

statement to him.

But if these lines seem to deal harshly with the Egyptian Minister, it should not be concluded that he is held not to be deserving of sympathy. On the contrary, he deserves very much sympathy for, not only is he invariably well behaved in public, but in this instance he was in the position of an innocent passerby set upon by a man under the influence of alcohol. That feature of the affair cannot be too much emphasized. Admirers of the Gazi, apologists for Kemalism and, notably, the sycophantic Turkish press would obviously like the facts to appear otherwise and the Minister, undoubtedly bitten by the prevalent contagion of reverence for the great Anatolian hero, and therefore harassed by a hesitancy as to how far a mere diplomat may presume to stand up for his rights under such circumstances, seems to have done his utmost to attract to himself much of the responsibility for what took place. Nevertheless, the only fact about this whole incident to be remembered is the fact that the manners of the court of Çankaya have been shown not to be the manners of civilized courts and that the monarch who reigns over the Anatolian uplands has shown himself to be, to put it mildly, an intemperate user of alcohol and careless of showing appropriate consideration for guests. Ankara may shout down Cairo and Yunus Nadi Bey and the other luminaries of Turkish journalism may complete the task, far advanced by nature, of making an ass of the Egyptian Minister but this cannot excuse the conduct of the great occidentalizer.

In this connection, it has for years been the habit to discover a similarity between the career of Washington and that of Gazi Mustafa Kemal and between the American Revolution

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

767.83/6

SEE 867.9111/389 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul (Allen) DATED Jan. 25, 1933
TO NAME

1—1127

REGARDING:

So-called fez-incident, which concerns the removal of the fez of the Egyptian Minister by the President of Turkey.

The - appears to be closed.

Wi

DIGEST OF THE TURKISH PRESS
For the Period January 6 - 21, 1933.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

The President.

Without telling the reading public exactly how it was accomplished, the press treats the incident of the fez of the Egyptian Minister as closed. In an editorial in the CUMHURIYET, Yunus Nadi Bey says that "it is fortunate that the intelligent and tactful government of His Majesty King Fuat of Egypt has...given proof of foresight and sagacity". Toward the end of the same article, Nadi Bey says that "this happy result...must be...accepted with satisfaction in connection with the cause of world peace." It is not clear from this which party actually backed down but it is perfectly clear that the CUMHURIYET desires to convey to its readers the idea that the Egyptian Government had the "foresight and sagacity" to back down before "world peace" was endangered. In other words, the editorial in question, which is the only statement on the subject noted, is, though cordial in tone, none the less jingoistic and insolent. The general result of the whole incident is that the Egyptian Minister, after having been thoroughly hazed, slipped off home on leave on January 17, never to return, the gossip-mongers say, while the Great Gazi, the cause of all the trouble, unscathed, inaugurated on January 15 one of those triumphal progresses with which he frequently thrills the provincial potentates of the People's Party who are given thereby an opportunity to show off

Fez Incident Reported Closed

767.83

before

before their less favored compatriots. That is to say, although the Turkish diplomatic representative at Cairo may have spoken correctly and even given the apologies and assurances the occasion called for, the Egyptian Minister to Turkey obviously "got it in the neck" and the great Anatolian Washington came off, so far as one can judge, without even a realization of his own boorishness.

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

767.83/7

SEE 867.9111/391 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul (Allen) DATED Feb.21, 1933

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING:

So-Called "fez-incident".

Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs indicates that Egypt is satisfied that the - implied no insult or assault.

Wi

consisted of a trip to the Top Kapu Palace where he noted that in the sixteenth century Turkish soldiers wore visored caps and wondered why the fez was subsequently adopted. Otherwise, his sojourn has, according to the communiqués, been marked by relaxation, like a dinner in the public dining room of the leading hotel and attendance at a charity ball, rather than by any serious examination of the needs of the populace. In general he has remained indoors, a fact for which the recent inclemency of the weather amply accounts. The other investigators, Ismet Paşa, the Prime Minister, and Kiazim Paşa, the president of the Assembly, likewise abandoned their investigations as soon as the father of the republic had left off, Ismet Paşa getting back to the capital on February 5 and Kiazim Paşa, on February 7. The latter came down to Istanbul on February 16 to rest and also, of course, to have his teeth looked after, Sami Bey Gunzberg, the court toothpuller, not having seen them for some three or four weeks.

The MILLIYET borrows from the Cairo MUHADENET information to the effect that a statement by the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs indicates that Egypt is satisfied that the Republic Day incident at Ankara, in which the Egyptian Minister's fez was removed by, or by order of, Gazi Mustafa Kemal, implied no insult or assault. As a result, the MILLIYET understands, Turko-Egyptian relations are more cordial than ever.

The Egyptian Minister's Fez

767.93

The CUMHURIYET, ever alert to shield the fair name of the national hero, announces that two British societies

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 883.00 General Conditions/23 FOR #677

FROM Egypt (Jardine) DATED Feb.28,1933

TO NAME 1—1127

767.83/8

REGARDING: Tarbush incident.
The closing of the - was announced on Jan.23rd in Parliament with the reply made by Minister for Foreign Affairs in answer to an interpellation.

lec

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 701.8367/8 Confidential File FOR despatch #455

FROM Turkey (Shaw) DATED Apr.26,1933

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

767.83/9

REGARDING: Strained relations between Egypt and Turkey caused by removal of the Egyptian Minister's tarboosh by the Gazi have been erased by attendance of the Gazi at reception in Egyptian Legation following slight accident to Tawhid Bey, the Charge d'Affaires of Egypt

ma

767.83/9

Ankara, April 26, 1933.

No. 455

Confidential.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Egypt and Turkey are once again warm friends, but not without the loss of considerable blood by the Egyptian Chargé d'Affaires. It will be remembered that a grave international crisis threatened the relations between the two countries when the Gazi, at, or after, the banquet to the Chiefs of Mission in Ankara on October 29th last, intemperately caused the tarboosh of the Egyptian Minister to be removed.

On the Egyptian national holiday, March 28th, Tawhid Bey, the Chargé d'Affaires, some two hours before his reception in the Legation to official Ankara was involved in a motor accident. He received a nasty cut on the head, bled profusely,

was

was anaesthetized, stitched up and bandaged. He was on hand to receive his guests at ten o'clock.

The Gazi, having learned of the accident, arrived at the Legation at one o'clock. It was a magnificent opportunity and excuse to heal the breach caused by the "fez incident", as by personal inquiry regarding Tawhid Bey's health he could show rare honor to Egypt not only by his solicitude for its representative but also by attending the soirée on the Egyptian national holiday. For the Gazi to enter a legation or embassy is so unusual that his arrival caused no little excitement. He smoked, sipped champagne and expounded on history and religion while the hours slipped by pleasantly. At six he sent the wilted but plucky Tawhid off to bed, but he, the Gazi, lingered on until the full daylight of eight o'clock.

Fulsome telegrams were then exchanged between the President of Turkey and the King of Egypt, expressing the great cordiality of their friendship and relations. Thus closed the "fez incident."

Respectfully yours,

C. Howland Shaw,
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

701.1
HDC/rs

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NOTE

767.83/10

SEE 883.00 General conditions/32 FOR #858

FROM Egypt (Childs) DATED Nov.28, 1933

TO NAME 1—1127 o.f.o.

REGARDING:

Turkish-Egyptian relations.

Absence of representatives of Egyptian Government at Turkish Legation on October 29, tenth anniversary of the Turkish Republic. Divergence of view on the part of the two governments in respect of the marriage of Prince Seif el Din.

Wi

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BUREAU OF INDEXES AND ARCHIVES

Projected Legislation on Trade Marks and Trade Names (despatch No. 839 of October 26, 1933)

As of some interest to American exporters to Egypt and their local representatives, it was learned during October that the Egyptian Government has under consideration draft legislation for the protection of trade marks and trade names in Egypt designed to supply the lack of statute law on the subject.

Unsatisfactory Character of Turkish-Egyptian Relations (no despatch)

Official relations between Turkey and Egypt which have suffered from the distinct coolness of King Fuad towards the young Republic of Turkey, appearing from beneath the surface on the occasion of the famous tarboush incident and in the difficulties incident to the conclusion of a treaty between the two countries which has been in process of negotiation for some time, were further evidenced in October by the absence of representatives of the Egyptian Government at the Turkish Legation on October 29th on the occasion of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Republic, and by the divergence of view on the part of the two governments in respect of the marriage of Prince Seif el Din.

767.83

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 867.9111/417 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul (Allen) DATED May 29, 1934

TO

NAME

1-1127 GPO

767.83/11

REGARDING: Negotiation of a Turko-Egyptian treaty which will include provisions regarding amity, a sojourn convention and agreement regarding nationality.

Wi

Treaty Relations

News from Cairo is to the effect that progress is being made on the drafting of a Turko-Egyptian treaty which will include provisions regarding amity, a sojourn convention and an agreement regarding nationality.

767.83

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

June 3,1937

T D :

In connection with this despatch it is suggested that note be taken also of page 5 of despatch No. 980 of May 5,1937, from the Legation in Cairo in which it is remarked that:

> The Treaty of Establishment (with Turkey) ,said to be the first such treaty ever entered into by Egypt, is of more than usual interest inasmuch as it is considered by the Egyptians to establish a basis on which such treaties will be signed with other Powers. It is recognized that many special situations exist between Egypt and Turkey which will not be applicable in a treaty with other countries....

This last remark appears to me to be of particular pertinence.

WSM

Jrc

TREATY DIVISION
copy C I B
JUN 4-1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sean Hurt

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Cairo, Apr. 26, 1937.

Encloses translations of three treaties between Egypt and Turkey, signed Apr.7, 1937:

Treaty of Friendship
Treaty of Establishment
Convention on Nationality

The treaties have not yet been submitted to the Egyptian Parliament.

The Treaty of Friendship provides that the diplomatic representatives of each country in the territory of the other shall enjoy all privileges and immunities accorded the representatives of other powers. The whole staff of the British Embassy now enjoys customs immunity, which would be accorded presumably to the Turks also under the new treaty. As the Department is aware, only three members of the Legation are entitled to customs franchise.

Three provisions are notable in the Treaty of Establishment:

Art.6- Each contracting party agrees not to subject the nationals of the other to military service. Italians and Greeks in Egypt will probably seek similar concessions.

Art.9, par.2- Reciprocal provision that personal status cases shall be referred to the local courts, but national laws are to be applied.

Art.10,par.7- Taxes shall be levied by each contracting party only on the actual capital, property, profits, and business of companies of the other party.

MBG

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Cairo, April 26, 1937

No. 974.

Subject: Three Treaties Signed between Egypt and Turkey.

DIVISION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
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DIVISION OF PROTOCOL AND CONFERENCES
JUN 21 1937
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767.839 Residence and Establishment
767.834
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711.839 Residence & Establishment

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 28 1937
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
FILED
JUN 22 1937

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that on April 7, 1937, a Treaty of Friendship, a Treaty of Establishment, and a Nationality Convention, were signed in Ankara between Plenipotentiaries of the Egyptian and Turkish Governments. Texts of these treaties were released to the Egyptian press on April 21st. There is enclosed herewith a clipping from the Egyptian Mail of April 22nd, containing an English translation of the Treaty of Friendship and a resumé of the

Nationality

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 14 1937
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

Nationality Convention. The Treaty of Establishment has appeared only in La Bourse Egyptienne (April 21) in French. The suggested translation thereof is enclosed herewith. A suggested translation of the Nationality Convention in full, as published in the same edition of La Bourse Egyptienne, is also enclosed.

These treaties have not as yet been submitted to the Egyptian Parliament for ratification, and the Legation has no reliable information concerning when this will be done. It seems not improbable, however, that the ratification may be delayed, due to the prior consideration being given to the Capitulations negotiations now going on at Montreux.

It will be observed that Article 2 of the Treaty of Friendship, as translated by the Egyptian Mail, provides that "the diplomatic representatives of each of the High Contracting Parties and all members of their mission belonging to the Diplomatic Corps shall enjoy the same privileges, honors, and immunity on the territory of the other Party as the representatives and diplomatic agents of other Powers, on a reciprocal basis."

701.0667
701.0683

Inasmuch as all officers of the staff of the British Embassy in Cairo continue to enjoy customs immunity, it would appear that, upon ratification of the present treaty, all members of the Turkish Legation in Cairo belonging to the Diplomatic Corps will be entitled to this privilege. As the Department is aware, only three officers from each Legation in Cairo are at present entitled to customs franchise.

The Treaty of Establishment, although reflecting the special relationship existing between Egypt and Turkey, is of some interest in connection with the efforts now being made by the French delegation at Montreux to persuade the Egyptian officials to conclude a

Treaty

Treaty of Establishment with France.

The concessions granted by Egypt and Turkey reciprocally in the Treaty of Establishment are of a well guarded nature, and seem, at least on first glance, not to be outstandingly liberal. One or two provisions, however, may be immediately noticed. In Article 6 the contracting parties agree not to subject the nationals of the other to compulsory military service. (This provision is effected to an important degree by the accompanying Nationality Convention, which defines the nationals of the respective parties.) The Italian and Greek communities in Egypt may be expected to be eager to obtain a similar concession for their nationals in Egypt.

883.012
867.012

Paragraph two of Article 9 implies that matters of personal status involving nationals of the contracting parties residing in the territory of the other shall be referred to the local courts, but that the national laws of the parties involved shall be applied.

In paragraph seven of Article 10 it is provided that taxes shall be levied by each of the contracting parties only on the amount of capital actually invested, the property owned, the profits realized, or the business conducted in its territory by companies of the other party.

867.5123

Definitive copies of the three treaties referred to herein will be forwarded to the Department as soon as available.

Respectfully yours,

Leland B. Morris
American Charge d'Affaires a.i.

Enclosures:
Clipping from the Egyptian Mail, dated April 22, 1937.
Translation of article from La Bourse Egyptienne, dated April 21, 1937, re: The Treaty of Establishment.
Translation of article from La Bourse Egyptienne, dated April 21, 1937, re: Nationality Convention.

In triplicate
File No. 710
GVA.alw

Copy sent to Montreux.

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 974 of April 26, 1937 from the Legation at Cairo

From the EGYPTIAN MAIL of April 22, 1937.

EGYPT'S THREE TREATIES WITH TURKEY

Situation Of Turkish Residents Regulated

OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO many persons in this country are the three treaties signed between Egypt and Turkey at Ankara on April 7 last, the texts of which were published simultaneously in Cairo and Ankara yesterday morning.

The first is a Treaty of Friendship which states that there shall be «inviolable peace and perpetual friendship» between the two nations.

The second is a Treaty of Establishment which grants certain rights, given on a most favoured nation basis, to Turks wishing to live and work in Egypt or Egyptians wishing to live and work in Turkey.

The third, perhaps the most important, is a Convention of Nationality, which regulates the nationality of the many Turks and persons of Turkish origin who live in Egypt, and still, in some cases, claim Turkish nationality.

Following is the text of the Treaty of Friendship:—

In view of the traditional relations and natural affinity existing between Egypt and Turkey, and inspired by the sincere desire to strengthen the bonds of friendship and fraternity existing between them.

It has been decided to conclude a Treaty of Friendship and the following Plenipotentiaries have been appointed : —

For H.M. the King of Egypt:

His Excelency Mohamed El Mafty El Gazaerly Bey, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Ankara.

For the President of the Turkish Republic:

Dr. Tewfick Rustu Aras, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Deputy of Ismir.

After having exchanged their credentials, and shown that they are in order, they have agreed on the following terms.

Article 1

There shall be inviolable peace and sincere perpetual friendship between Egypt and Turkey.

Article 2

The diplomatic representatives of each of the High Contracting Powers and all members of their mission belonging to the Diplomatic Corps shall enjoy the same privileges, honours, and immunity on the territory of the other Party as the representatives and diplomatic agents of other Powers, on a reciprocal basis.

Article 3

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall be entitled to appoint Consuls-General, Consuls and Vice-Consuls to reside in the capital of the other's territory, or in the principal towns where similar foreign representatives are usually allowed to reside.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall moreover, be entitled, after having obtained the agreement of the other, to appoint honorary Consul-General, Consuls and Vice-Consuls to reside in the above-mentioned towns; these persons can under no circumstances be chosen from among the natives of the State where they reside.

The representatives of both categories in possession of their exequatur shall enjoy respectively under conditions of full reciprocity, the rights, privileges and attributions endowed by international law.

Article 4

The present Treaty shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification exchanged in Cairo as soon as possible.

It shall come into force on the fifteenth day after the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

In proof of which, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and affixed to it their seals in.

Made in duplicate at Ankara on April 7, 1937.

(Seal)

Signed: M. Mufti Gazaerli.

(Seal)

Signed: Dr. T. R. Aras

THE CONVENTION OF NATIONALITY

Article 1 lays down that former Ottoman subjects established in Egypt on 5th. November, 1914, of Turkish origin by birth or parentage, shall, if they have already been considered as having acquired Egyptian Nationality, have the faculty to opt for Turkish nationality.

This, however, will not apply to those who were born in Egypt and whose father was also born in Egypt.

Those former Turkish subjects who came to Egypt after 5th. November 1914 keep their Turkish Nationality.

Former Turkish Subjects who shall have become Egyptian residents and who were settled abroad on 5th, November 1914, who are of Turkish origin by birth and whose father was born in Turkey, in Egypt or in territory detached from Turkey by the Treaty of Lausanne, and having kept their Turkish nationality shall not be considered as having acquired Egyptian nationality.

Such former Turkish subjects who were born in Egypt and whose father was born in Egypt shall have the faculty to opt for Egyptian nationality

The period of option allowed is twelve months from the date of the Convention coming into force, whilst the benefit of nationality applies to the wife and all children under 18 years of age.

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 974 of
April 26, 1937, from Legation, Cairo.

(Translation, from La Bourse Egyptienne, of April 21, 1937.)

Treaty of Establishment between Egypt and Turkey.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF EGYPT, on the one part, and

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY, on the other,

equally moved by the sincere desire to develop their cordial relations by the conclusion of a Treaty of Establishment between the two States, have for this purpose appointed as their respective Plenipotentiairies:
For HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF EGYPT:
His Excellency Mohammed El-Mofti El-Gazaerli Bey, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiairy at Ankara;
For THE PRESIDENT OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC:
His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rustu Aras, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Deputy of Ismir;
who, after having exchanged their credentials, and shown that they are in order, have agreed on the following terms:

Article 1.

The nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties, while observing the laws and regulations of the Country, may freely enter to travel, sojourn, or establish themselves in the territory of the other except in forbidden localities or zones, or may leave at any time, without having to submit to any restrictions whatsoever, other than the restrictions to which nationals are or will be submitted, or, if such exist, the special provisions to which the foreigners who are nationals of the most favored nation are or may be subjected.

Each of the High Contracting Parties reserves for itself the right, either because of a criminal record, or because of laws and regulations regarding public morals, sanitation, or mendicity, or for purposes of the internal or external security of the State, to forbid individuals who are nationals of the other Party to establish themselves or to remain on its territory, and to force them to leave for such reasons.

Article 2.

The present Treaty does not affect the right of either of the High Contracting Parties to forbid immigration or to decree special measures governing the admission and employment of workers and foreigners receiving wages or salary.

Article 3.

Article 3.

The nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy on the territory of the other, while conforming to the laws and regulations of the country, most favored nation treatment in matters concerning the right to possess, to acquire, or to dispose of movable goods or real estate in any way they please, it being understood that they may acquire only such goods the acquisition of which by foreigners is allowed in conformity with the laws of the country.

Article 4.

The nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties shall have, on the territory of the other, while conforming to the laws and regulations of the country, the right to exercise any kind of industry or commerce as well as any trade or profession the exercise of which is not or may not be, according to the law of the country, reserved to nationals of the country.

Article 5.

The nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties shall not be obliged to pay, on the territory of the other, for their persons or for their goods, possessions or financial interests, including their commerce, trade or profession, any duty, tax or charge of any nature whatsoever other than or higher than those to which nationals are subjected.

Regarding taxes and charges of any sort to be paid under the head of sojourn and establishment, the nationals of the two Parties shall enjoy most favored nation treatment.

They shall be permitted to export freely the proceeds from the sale of their goods or their goods themselves, with the reservation of the legal provisions in force in the country, without being subjected, in their quality of foreigners, to duty, taxes or fines any higher than those which nationals would have to pay.

Article 6.

The nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties shall be exempt, on the territory of the other, from any military service in the army, the navy, the air force, the national guard or the militia, as well as from any obligation or tax which shall replace military service.

They shall not be submitted to any obligations or demands of a military nature except in proportion to and under the conditions provided for nationals.

Article 7.

Article 7.

The nationals of one of the High Contracting Parties may not, on the territory of the other, be dispossessed of their goods except for reasons of public utility as provided for by the law. Reciprocally, they shall be entitled to the indemnities established in favor of nationals by the law in force in the respective countries.

No expropriation shall take place before the indemnity has been paid or duly deposited.

Article 8.

The nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy, as regards both their person and their possessions, on the territory of the other, the complete protection of the laws, the courts and other authorities, on the same basis as nationals of the country.

Like the nationals, they shall have free access before the courts of all degrees, as much to demand as to defend their rights, and they shall enjoy, like them, liberty to choose in all suits their counsel, lawyers, or agents from among the persons who are allowed to exercise these professions according to the laws of the territory in question.

On the condition of reciprocity, no guarantee or deposit, under any technicality whatsoever, may be imposed on the respective nationals of the two countries by reason of the fact that they are foreigners.

Article 9.

The nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties on the territory of the other shall be subject, in conformity with and under the same conditions as nationals, to the laws of the country, to the general principles of international law, to the laws, decrees, rules and regulations in criminal, civil, commercial, administrative, fiscal or other matters, and to the courts provided for nationals.

Regarding questions of personal status, the courts of each of the High Contracting Parties shall apply, under the reservation of the laws having to do with public order, the national law of the parties involved in the suit.

Article 10.

Joint-stock companies and other commercial companies, including industrial and financial companies, insurance and transportation companies which have their

chief

chief place of business on the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties and which are legally constituted under the laws of the latter, shall be recognized by the other party as regularly existing.

These companies, while submitting to the laws and regulations of the other party which are or may be in force, and, if the legislation of the latter requires a licence, after having obtained this licence, may establish themselves on the territory of the latter and there create affiliated organizations, branch establishments or agencies and appear in a court of justice as plaintiff or defendant.

The activity of the said companies, constituted under the laws of one of the High Contracting Parties, shall, as far as such activity is carried out on the territory of the other, be subject to the laws and regulations of the latter. The companies shall not be treated, as regards their activity, less favorably than the companies of the most favored nation.

In all matters concerning the legal and judicial protection of their goods, the provisions of article 8 shall likewise apply in a similar manner to the companies referred to in the present article.

The companies of one of the High Contracting Parties, as well as their affiliated organizations, branch establishments or agencies, shall not be subject, on the territory of the other, as regards duties, taxes, or fines, to a fiscal charge any higher than that borne by the companies of the most favored nation.

It is understood that such companies must pay the fees for obtaining licences or registration required for foreign companies, and must give the security provided for by law. They shall be subject to other requirements and to military requisitions only to the extent and under the conditions provided for national companies.

Regarding taxes to be levied on capital, revenue, or profits, each of the High Contracting Parties shall tax only the affiliated organizations, branch establishments or agencies of the other, according to the nature of the taxes, in proportion to the amount of capital of the company invested on its territory, the property owned there, the profits realised there, or the business carried on there.

Such companies may, under the same conditions as those applied to the most favored nation and in conformity with the laws of the country, acquire all kinds of movable property. This shall also apply, in conformity with article 3, to the acquisition of buildings which are necessary for the functioning of the company, it being understood that the acquisition itself of real estate is not the main object of the company.

Article 11.

Article 11.

Differences which may arise between the two High Contracting Parties as to the interpretation of the present Treaty and which may not be settled by diplomatic channels shall be submitted by common accord, through a compromise, to arbitration.

Article 12.

The present Treaty shall be ratified. The instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Cairo.

It shall come into force one month after the exchange of ratifications and shall remain in force for three years. If it has not been denounced six months before the expiration of this period it shall be continued by tacit renewal, and in this case shall remain in force until the expiration of a period of six months after one of the High Contracting Parties shall have notified the Other of its intention to denounce it.

In proof of which, the respective Plenipotentiairies have signed the present Treaty and have affixed to it their Seals.

Made in duplicate at Ankara on April 7, 1937.

(Seal.)

Signed: M. Mufti Gazaerli.

(Seal.)

Signed: Dr. T. R. Aras.

Translation: HBH/GVA/.

Copied: HBH.

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 974 of
April 26, 1937, from Legation, Cairo.

Translation from
La Bourse Egyptienne of
April 21, 1937.

Convention of Nationality Concluded between Egypt and Turkey.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF EGYPT, on the one part, and

THE PRESIDENT OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC, on the other, having considered it to be in conformity with their reciprocal interests to regulate certain questions of nationality of the former Turkish nationals involving both States,

have decided to draw up a Convention to this effect and have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiairies:

For HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF EGYPT:

His Excellency Mohammed El-Mofti El Gazaerli Bey, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiairy at Ankara;

For THE PRESIDENT OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC:

His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rustu Aras, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Deputy of Ismir;

who, after having exchanged their credentials, and shown that they are in order, have agreed on the following terms:

Article 1.

The former Ottoman subjects established in Egypt on November 5, 1914, who are of Turkish origin by birth or whose father was born in Turkey, in Egypt, abroad, or in one of the territories separated from Turkey through the Lausanne Treaty of July 24, 1923, shall have the faculty to opt for Turkish nationality, if they have been considered by Egypt as having acquired Egyptian nationality.

However, it is to be well understood that, among these persons, those who were born in Egypt and whose father was likewise born in Egypt shall not have this faculty of option.

Article 2.

Former Ottoman subjects who went to Egypt after

November 5, 1914,

November 5, 1914, shall keep their Turkish nationality.

However, those who are not of Turkish origin and who had acquired Egyptian nationality before this Convention went into effect, are considered as Egyptians.

Article 3.

The former Ottoman subjects who had gained Egyptian naturalization and who were established in Turkey on November 5, 1914, shall be considered as having kept their Turkish nationality.

However, those of them who were born in Egypt and whose father was likewise born in Egypt shall have the faculty of choosing Egyptian nationality.

Article 4.

Former Turkish subjects who had gained Egyptian naturalization and who were established in foreign countries on November 5, 1914, but who are of Turkish origin by birth or whose father was born in Turkey, in Egypt or in one of the territories detached from Turkey by the Lausanne Treaty of July 24, 1923, having kept their Turkish nationality, shall not be considered by the Egyptian Government as having acquired Egyptian nationality.

However, those Turkish subjects who were born in Egypt and whose father was likewise born in Egypt shall have the faculty of choosing Egyptian nationality.

Article 5.

The option provided for in articles 1, 3 and 4 must be exercised within the period of one year from the time when this present Convention goes into effect.

For the application of article 1, the option shall be addressed in Turkey to the Ministry of the Interior, in Egypt to the Legation of Turkey and in foreign countries to the Turkish Legations and Consulates.

For the application of articles 3 and 4, the option shall be addressed in Egypt to the Ministry of the Interior, in Turkey to the Legation of Egypt and in foreign countries to the Egyptian Legations or Consulates.

Article 6.

The nationality recognized by articles 1, 2, 3

and

and 4 extends fully to the wife, and to the children of less than eighteen years.

Article 7.

The Turkish Legation shall present to the Egyptian Ministry for Foreign Affairs within a period of time of three months after the expiration of the time provided for in article 5 the lists of those choosing Turkish nationality through article 1. These lists must include the names of the wife and minor children.

After the delivery of the aforesaid lists, the Egyptian Ministry for Foreign Affairs shall confer with the Turkish Legation for the maintenance on or the removal from these lists of the names of persons who are included on it, according to whether they fulfill or not the conditions for option, and shall draw up with the Legation a final correct list.

Article 8.

The Egyptian Legation shall present to the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, within three months after the end of the period specified in Article 5, lists of the optants for Egyptian nationality by virtue of Articles 3 and 4. This list shall include the names of the married wife and minor children.

After the delivery of the aforesaid lists, the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs will confer with the Egyptian Legation regarding the maintenance on or removal from these lists of the names of persons who are included on it according to whether they fulfill or not the conditions of option, and will draw up, in agreement with the Legation, a definitive list.

Article 9.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs shall present to the Legation of Turkey at Cairo, within a period of three months from the entry into force of this Convention, the lists of persons who have acquired Egyptian nationality, under the conditions provided in paragraph 2 of article 2. The lists must include the names of the married wife and minor children.

After the delivery of the aforesaid lists, the Turkish Legation will confer with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the maintenance on or removal from these lists, of the names of persons who are included on it, according to whether they fulfill

or not the said conditions, and shall draw up, in agreement with the Ministry, a final list.

Article 10.

The definitive lists provided for in the preceding articles may be corrected by common agreement if it shall be determined later that any individual who appears on this list did not fulfill the required conditions.

Article 11.

The present Convention shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification exchanged at Cairo as soon as possible. It shall enter into force one month after the date of the exchange of ratifications.

In proof of which, the respective Plenipotentiairies have signed the present Convention and affixed to it their seals.

Made in Duplicate at Ankara April 7, 1937.

Signed: M. Mufti Gazaerli. (Seal.)

Signed: Dr.T.R.Aras. (Seal.

Final Protocol.

Those persons who have exercised their right of choice in conformity with the provisions of the Convention of Nationality, signed on this date between Turkey and Egypt shall not, therefore, be obliged to leave the country the nationality of which they have renounced, and they shall continue to enjoy in it the rights conceded to their other fellow citizens.

The effects of the measures, the provisions, and the legal, administrative, and judiciary decisions taken by Turkey before this Convention went into effect in respect to those persons and their belongings which it (Turkey) considered as its own subjects and whose nationality has just been determined by this Convention, shall remain unchanged. The new nationality herein recognized to these persons shall in no wise modify the effects referred to above.

Made in Duplicate at Ankara April 7, 1937.

Signed: M. Mufti Gazaerli.

Dr. T. R. Aras.

Translated: HBH/GVA
Copied: HBH

6

RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1938 APR 26 PM 1 42

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Cairo, April 14, 1938.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1938
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

AIR MAIL

Confidential

No. 1258

767.83/13

Subject: Visit of the Turkish Foreign Minister to Egypt and Exchange of Ratifications of Three Turko-Egyptian Agreements.

767.83
Treaties

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
MAY 5 - 1938
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK
To the Field
H. L. S. A.

DIVISION OF
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
MAY 17 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TREATY DIVISION
MAY 18 1938
Copy CIS File
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that the Turkish Foreign Minister, Dr. Rustu Aras, arrived in Egypt on April 9, 1938, and two days later, at the

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MAY 21 1938

Foreign

767.8311
767.839 Establishment
767.834

Foreign Office, the ratifications of Egypt and Turkey to the Treaty of Friendship, the Treaty of Establishment, and a Nationality Convention, signed by the two countries at Ankara on April 7, 1937, were exchanged. The Texts of these instruments were transmitted by the Legation's despatch no. 974 of April 26, 1937.

767.90Q/12 Non-aggression

The chief interest attached to the visit of Dr. Aras has been the question of whether he would invite the Egyptian Government to join the Pact of Saadabad now in effect between Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Turkey, and the response of the Egyptian Government to the invitation if issued.

I am informed that the invitation has in fact been extended, but in such a form that it could be stated with truth that (officially) such had not been done. I understand that Egypt has declined to adhere on the ground that carrying out the terms of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty will occupy the energies of this country for some time to come, and that it would be unwise, for the moment at least, for Egypt to concern itself with any further orientation of a political nature. In the words of the Al Siyassa, the organ of the Premier's party:

> "Turkey is naturally aware that, at least for the time being, Egypt has no particular interest in joining such a pact, although she is on the most friendly terms with all the members. The heavy responsibilities imposed upon her by the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty engage almost all her resources. It would, therefore, be unwise for the Egyptian Government to increase the country's burdens by joining a pact that should inevitably entail further obligations. Such a step may, however, be desirable in the future. It is therefore essential that Egypt should develop her military power so that she may join the Pact on a status of equality with the other members."

While

While the British would naturally regard the adherence of Egypt to the Pact without enthusiasm, and probably with aversion, I believe that the decision of the Egyptian Government has been taken independently.

There is, furthermore, no ascertainable disposition on the part of Egypt to join the so-called Arab Treaty of Brotherhood and Alliance signed at Baghdad by Iraq and Saudi Arabia on April 2, 1936.

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Upon reaching Egypt, the Turkish Foreign Minister declined to make any direct statement relating to the Saadabad Pact, saying merely that he was "bringing to Egypt the friendship of Turkey." In discussing Turkish foreign policy, Dr. Aras was stated to have said that Turkey was resolutely against the policy of group arrangements between countries, and preferred to deal directly with each state. Turkey and Soviet Russia remained staunch, sincere friends, and there was likewise a perfect spirit of understanding between Ankara and Rome. The fact that relations between Italy and Russia were not all that they might be, was no concern of Turkey.

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Relations between Greece and Turkey were more than those of merely friendly powers. Dr. Aras confirmed that on April 26 he hoped to leave Ankara with the Turkish Prime Minister for an official visit to Athens, in order to sign a Greco-Turkish treaty of alliance.

Turkey was busy treaty-making with France at the moment. All Franco-Turkish treaties had recently been abrogated in order to clear the way for new ones safeguarding the interests of both parties and more in harmony with the spirit of the day. Preliminary

751.67

conversations

conversations were already under way at Ankara.

Anglo-Turkish relations were most cordial and could not be on a better footing. As to the Balkans, the members of the Balkan Entente knew that the spirit of the Pact was part and parcel of the interests of all concerned, and therein lay its strength.

As to relations with Germany, there had been a good deal of talk about the appointment of Herr von Papen to Ankara. Certain newspapermen had displayed a good deal of imagination in this regard. Herr von Papen was an old friend of Turkey. Of late there had been a tendency in certain circles to judge things on a hypothetical basis, instead of on the basis of actual relations between the various countries. So far as Turkey was concerned, Dr. Aras was proud to affirm that it was on the best of terms with all the capitals of the world.

Respectfully yours,

Bert Fish

Bert Fish

Copy to:

American Legation, Athens.
American Legation, Baghdad.
American Embassy, Istanbul.
American Embassy, London.
American Legation, Teheran.

In triplicate.
File no. 710
GPM/hbh

2 carbon copies
Received

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Cairo, April 19, 1938

No. 1266.

Subject: Official Communiqué on the Visit of the Turkish Foreign Minister to Egypt.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
MAY 20 1938
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
MAY 19 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1938
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
MAY 23 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

767.83/14

5
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1938 MAY 14 AM 11 43
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In U. S. A.
American Embassy, Rome

Copy Transmitted by The Commercial Office (A-M/C)
To Rome
5/20/38

FILED
MAY 23 1938

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Legation's despatch 1258 of April 14, 1938, relating to the recent visit of Dr. Tewfik Rustu Aras, the Turkish Foreign Minister, to Egypt, and to enclose herewith a suggested translation of an official communiqué of the Egyptian Foreign Office issued on the conclusion thereof.

A list of decorations bestowed by King Farouk on the occasion of the visit is also enclosed herewith, as indicative

of

of the cordiality with which the Turkish Delegation was received.

The Department will I think be interested in a remark made to me by the Turkish Minister at Cairo, to the effect that while he wore no decorations and was forbidden to do so by his Foreign Office, his Government nevertheless was displeased if decorations from foreign Governments were not forthcoming.

Respectfully yours,

Bert Fish

Bert Fish

2 Enclosures:

Suggested translation of official communiqué of the Egyptian Foreign Office.

From Journal Officiel No. 47 of April 18, 1937.

In triplicate
File No. 710/090
GPM.AIW

Copy sent to American Embassy at Istanbul.

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 1267 of
April 19, 1938, from Legation, Cairo.

TRANSLATION

At the invitation of the Royal Egyptian Government, His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rustu Aras, Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Cairo on April 9, 1938, to visit Egypt.

Following his arrival, he was received by His Majesty the King, who afforded him proof of His High good will.

The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs had a number of conversations with the President of the Council of Ministers, with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and with Egyptian statesmen.

In the course of these several interviews, it was noted with deep pleasure that the relations of the two countries are inspired by the best feelings and by good understanding.

The necessity was also noted of working for the development of economic and commercial relations between the two countries to the advantage of their mutual interests.

The presence of Dr. Tewfik Rustu Aras having coincided with the development of the Rome conversations - in which Egypt participated - His Excellency expressed the wish that these conversations might have a happy issue.

In the course of the visit of His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rustu Aras, there occurred the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the treaties signed by the two States on April 7, 1937, treaties which perpetuate the traditional friendship between Turkey and Egypt, stipulating conditions for the establishment of the nationals of the two countries in their respective territories, and settling certain questions concerning nationality.

This visit was the occasion of a striking manifestation of the ties of sincere friendship between the two countries and a guarantee of the future development of the traditional relations which have so happily existed between them for a number of centuries.

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 1267 of
April 19, 1938, from Legation, Cairo.

Translation

Extract from Journal Officiel No. 47 of April 18, 1937.

His Majesty the King has deigned to confer:

The Grand Cordon of the Order of Ismail

upon H.E. Dr. Tewfik Rushdi Aras, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Republic.

The Grand Cordon of the Order of the Nile

upon H.E. Mohamed Ali Shevki Alban, Minister Plenipotentiary of Turkey in Egypt;

upon H.E. Numan Menemenjioglu, Ambassador, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.

The Second Class of the Order of Ismail (Grand Officer)

upon H.E. Cevad Ajik Aline, Minister Plenipotentiary, President of the First Political Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey;

upon Bay Shukri Soeukmensuer, Director General of Public Security in Turkey;

upon H.E. Zia Kiziltan, First Legal Counselor of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.

The Second Class of the Order of the Nile (Grand Officer)

upon H.E. Aghah Aksel, Minister Plenipotentiary, Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey;

upon Bay Refik Amir Kojamaz, Chief of the Cabinet of H.E. Dr. T. R. Aras;

upon H.E. Esat Atouner, Minister Plenipotentiary, Chief of Protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.

The Third Class of the Order of Ismail (Commander)

upon Bay Nihat Odabashioglu, Vice President of the Turkofis (for Commerce);

upon Bay Kudret Erbay, Assistant Chief of Protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.

The Third Class of the Order of the Nile (Commander)

upon Bay Mehmed Kemal Sayit, First Secretary of the Legation of Turkey in Egypt;

upon Bay Seifullah Esine, Second Secretary of Legation, serving as Secretary of the Turkish Delegation.

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 630

Ankara, Turkey, May 6, 1938.

Subject: Turkish Foreign Minister's Visit to Egypt.

DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
JUN 10 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
JUN 11 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1938 MAY 31 PM 3 24
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

TREATY DIVISION
JUN 15 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 1 1938
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

767.83/15

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that Dr. T. R. Aras, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, paid an official visit to Egypt from April 9-13, 1938.

767.83

Although the nominal purpose of the visit was to exchange ratifications of the Turco-Egyptian Treaties of Friendship and Establishment, and of the Convention Concerning Nationality, which were signed at Ankara on April 7, 1937, the Embassy understands that Dr. Aras took the opportunity to sound out the Egyptian Government regarding the possibility of its becoming a party to the Saadabad Pact. Because Dr. Aras left for Athens almost

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JUN 18 1938

note
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Non-Aggression

immediately

immediately after his return from Cairo, I have not yet been able to learn his reactions to the distinctly cordial reception extended to him in Egypt or to hear his comments with regard to the likelihood of Egypt's giving serious consideration at this time to a proposal of membership in the Eastern Entente. Informed local observers, however, are of the opinion that Egypt would almost certainly not consider that its present interests would best be served by immediate adherence to the Pact.

Although considerable space was devoted by the local press to reporting the events incidental to the Foreign Minister's Cairo visit, that devoted to editorial comment was proportionally much less than is usual on such occasions. This fact was more than compensated for by the extravagantly warm tone of the editorials, which stressed the fact that Dr. Aras was "the first European statesman to pay an official visit to our young and independent Friend and Sister, now completely mistress of her destinies for the first time in modern days," which remarked that "the ties which unite the two countries are as old as history," which recalled moments when "Egypt wept with Anatolia," and others when "the whole of Turkey rejoiced with our Egyptian brothers."

On leaving Cairo Dr. Aras returned to Ankara via Beirut, Tripoli and Aleppo. The Turkish press, no doubt with one eye on the approaching elections in the Hatay, made much of the "enthusiastic demonstrations" which took place as the Foreign Minister passed through these cities, and stressed the cordiality of his reception by the Comte de Martel and other French officials. "The population of Beirut greeted

Dr. Aras with shouts of 'Vive Atatürk!' and waved silk Turkish flags which they had made themselves." In a word, the general impression created by the local press was that the Foreign Minister's progress through Egypt and Syria was not dissimilar to a triumphal procession.

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1-3/

The two treaties and the convention, mentioned in paragraph 2 above, have not yet been published by the Turkish Government. The Embassy has been able to obtain what it has reason to believe are reliable copies of these documents, however, and encloses them herewith for the Department's information, with the reservation that they should not be considered as authentic until the texts can be verified. The Embassy will report further in this regard as soon as the agreements have been published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Respectfully yours,

Robert F. Kelley

Robert F. Kelley,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosures:

1. Treaty.
2. Treaty.
3. Convention.

710/030

Copy sent to American Legation, Cairo.

Copy sent to American Consulate General, Beirut.

JLB:KOS

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 630 dated May 6, 1938, from the American Embassy at Ankara, Turkey.

(1) Traité d'Amitié entre l'Egypte et la Turquie

(2) Traité d'Etablissement entre l'Egypte et la Turquie

(3) Convention sur la Nationalité entre l'Egypte et la Turquie

Signés à Ankara, le 7 Avril 1937.

Traité d'Amitié entre l'Egypte et la Turquie

Sa Majesté le Roi d'Egypte d'une part, et le Président de la République Turque d'autre part,

constatant les rapports traditionnels et les affinités naturelles entre l'Egypte et la Turquie et également animés du désir sincère de resserrer les liens de l'amitié et de la fraternité existant entre elles,

ont résolu de conclure à cette fin un traité d'amitié et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, à savoir:

Sa Majesté le Roi d'Egypte:

Son Excellence Mohammed El-Mofti El-Gazaerli Bey, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire à Ankara

Le Président de la République Turque:

Son Excellence Monsieur le Dr. Tevfik Rüstü Aras, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, député d'Izmir;

lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes:

Art. 1.- Il y aura paix inviolable et amitié sincère et perpétuelle entre l'Egypte et la Turquie.

Art. 2.- Les représentants diplomatiques de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes ainsi que tout le personnel de leur

<u>mission</u>

mission faisant partie du Corps Diplomatique jouiront, à charge de réciprocité, sur le territoire de l'autre Partie, des mêmes privilèges, honneurs et immunités que les représentants et agents diplomatiques des autres Puissances.

Art. 3.- Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura le droit de nommer auprès de l'Autre des Consuls-Généraux, Consuls et Vice-Consuls de carrière, qui résideront soit dans la capitale soit dans les principales villes où de pareils agents étrangers sont généralement admis à résider.

Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura, en outre, après avoir obtenu au préalable l'agrément de l'Autre, le droit de nommer, en dehors des fonctionnaires de carrière, des Consuls-Généraux, Consuls et Vice-Consuls honoraires qui résideront dans les susdites villes et qui ne pourront, en aucun cas être choisis parmi les nationaux de l'Etat où ils résident.

Les agents des deux catégories, régulièrement munis de l'exequatur, jouiront respectivement, sous condition d'une parfaite réciprocité, des droits, privilèges et attributions consacrés par le droit commun international.

Art. 4.- Le présent Traité sera ratifié et les ratifications en seront échangées au Caire le plus tôt que faire se pourra.

Il entrera en vigueur le quinzième jour après l'échange des ratifications.

EN FOI DE QUOI, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé le présent Traité et y ont apposé leurs sceaux.

Fait en double, à Ankara, le 7 avril 1937.

(Sceau) Signature: M. Mufti Gazaerli.

(Sceau) Signature: Dr. T. R. Aras.

Enclosure No. 2 to despatch No. 630 dated May 6, 1938, from the American Embassy at Ankara, Turkey.

Traité d'Etablissement entre l'Egypte et la Turquie.

Sa Majesté le Roi d'Egypte

d'une part, et

Le President de la République Turque

d'autre part,

également animés du désir sincère de développer leurs relations cordiales par la conclusion d'un Traité d'Etablissement entre les deux Etats,

ont nommé à cet effet pour leurs Plénipotentiaires respectifs, à savoir:

Sa Majesté le Roi d'Egypte:

Son Excellence Mohammed El-Mufti El-Gazaerli Bey, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire à Ankara;

Le Président de la République Turque:

Son Excellence Monsieur le Docteur Tevfik Rüstü Aras, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, député d'Iamir;

lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes:

Art. 1.- Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes pourront, en observant les lois et règlements du Pays, entrer librement, voyager, séjourner et s'établir dans le territoire de l'Autre sauf dans les localités ou zones interdites ou l'abandonner en tout temps, sans être soumis à des restrictions de quelque nature qu'elles soient, autres que celles auxquelles sont ou seraient soumis les nationaux ou, s'il existe des dispositions spéciales pour les étrangers, les ressortissants de la nation la plus favorisée.

Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes se réserve le droit d'interdire, soit à la suite d'une sentence légale,

soit

soit en vertu des lois et règlements sur la police des moeurs, sur la police sanitaire sur la mendicité, soit pour des motifs de sûreté intérieure ou extérieure de l'Etat, à des individus ressortissants de l'autre Partie de s'établir ou de séjourner sur son territoire et de les expulser pour ces motifs.

Art. 2.- Le présent Traité ne porte pas atteinte au droit, pour chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes, d'interdire l'immigration et d'édicter des mesures spéciales pour l'admission et l'emploi des travailleurs et salariés étrangers.

Art. 3.- Les ressortissants de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes jouiront sur le territoire de l'Autre, en se conformant aux lois et règlements du Pays, du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée en ce qui concerne le droit de posséder, d'acquérir tous biens meubles et immeubles et d'en disposer de quelque manière que ce soit, étant bien entendu qu'ils ne pourront acquérir que les biens dont l'acquisition par les étrangers est admise en vertu des lois du Pays.

Art. 4.- Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes auront, sur le territoire de l'Autre, en se conformant aux lois et règlements du Pays, le droit d'exercer toute sorte d'industrie et de commerce ainsi que tout métier et profession dont l'exercice n'est pas ou ne serait pas, suivant la loi du Pays, réservé aux nationaux.

Art. 5.- Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes n'auront à payer sur le territoire de l'Autre, pour leur personne et leurs biens, droits et intérêts, y compris leur commerce, industrie, métier et profession, aucun impôt, taxe ou charge de quelque nature que ce soit, autres ou plus élevés que ceux auxquels sont soumis les nationaux.

En ce qui concerne les taxes et charges quelconques à payer du chef du séjour et de l'établissement, les ressortissants

des deux Parties jouiront du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée.

Ils seront autorisés à exporter librement le produit de la vente de leurs biens et leurs biens mêmes, sous réserve des dispositions légales en vigueur dans le Pays, sans être soumis en cela, en leur qualité d'étrangers, à des impôts, droits et redevances plus élevés que ceux qu'auraient à payer les nationaux.

Art. 6.- Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes seront exempts, sur le territoire de l'Autre, de tout service militaire dans l'armée, la marine, les forces aériennes, la garde nationale ou la milice, ainsi que de toute obligation ou charge remplaçant le service militaire.

Ils ne seront soumis à d'autres prestations ou réquisitions militaires que dans la mesure et aux conditions prévues pour les nationaux.

Art. 7.- Les ressortissants de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes ne pourront, sur le territoire de l'Autre, être expropriés de leurs biens que pour des raisons d'utilité publique prévues par la loi. Ils auront, réciproquement, droit aux indemnités établies en faveur des nationaux par la loi en vigueur dans les pays respectifs.

Aucune expropriation ne pourra avoir lieu avant que l'indemnité ait été versée ou dûment consignée.

Art. 8.- Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes jouiront, quant à leur personne et à leurs biens, sur le territoire de l'Autre, de la plus entière protection des lois, tribunaux et autres autorités, à l'égal des nationaux.

Comme les nationaux, ils auront libre accès devant les tribunaux à tous les degrés de juridiction, tant pour réclamer que pour défendre leurs droits, et jouiront, comme ceux-ci, de la liberté de choisir dans tous les procès leurs avocats,

avoués ou agents parmi les personnes admises à l'exercice de ces professions selon les lois du territoire en question.

Sous condition de réciprocité, aucune caution ni aucun dépôt, sous quelque dénomination que ce soit, ne pourra être imposé aux ressortissants respectifs des deux Pays en raison de leur qualité d'étrangers.

Art. 9.- Les ressortissants de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes sur le territoire de l'Autre seront soumis, conformément aux principes généraux du droit international et dans les mêmes conditions que les nationaux, à la législation territoriale: lois, décrets, arrêtés et règlements en matières criminelle, civile, commerciale, administrative, fiscale ou autres ainsi qu'aux juridictions réservées aux nationaux.

En matière de statut personnel, les tribunaux de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes seront tenus d'appliquer, sous réserve des règles relatives à l'ordre public, la loi nationale des parties au procès.

Art. 10.- Les sociétés par actions et autres sociétés commerciales, y compris les sociétés industrielles, financières, les compagnies d'assurance et de transport qui ont leur siège sur le territoire de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes et qui existent régulièrement d'après les lois de cette dernière, seront reconnues par l'Autre Partie comme existant régulièrement.

Lesdites sociétés pourront, en se soumettant aux lois et règlements de l'autre Pays, qui sont ou seront en vigueur, et, lorsque la législation de celui-ci prévoit l'obligation d'une autorisation, après obtention de ladite autorisation, s'établir sur le territoire de ce Pays, y créer des filiales, succursales ou agences et y ester en justice comme demandeur ou défendeur.

L'activité desdites sociétés constituées sous la légis-

lation de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes, en tant qu'elle s'exerce sur le territoire de l'Autre, sera soumise aux lois et règlements de celle-ci. Elles ne seront pas traités, quant à leur activité, moins favorablement que les sociétés de la nation la plus favorisée.

Pour tout ce qui concerne la protection légale et judiciaire de leurs biens, les dispositions de l'article 8 s'appliquent également d'une manière analogue aux sociétés visées par le présent article.

Les sociétés de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes ainsi que leurs filiales, succursales ou agences ne seront pas soumises sur le territoire de l'autre Pays, en ce qui concerne les droits, taxes et impôts, à une charge fiscale plus élevée que celle supportée par les sociétés de la nation la plus favorisée.

Il est entendu qu'elles seront astreintes à acquitter les taxes afférentes à l'obtention des actes d'autorisation et d'enregistrement pour les sociétés étrangères et à déposer les cautionnements prévus par la loi. Elles ne seront soumises à d'autres pre stations ou à des réquisitions militaires que dans la mesure et aux conditions prévues pour les sociétés nationales.

En ce qui concerne les impôts calculés sur le capital, le revenu ou les bénéfices, chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes ne taxera les sociétés, succursales, filiales ou agences de l'Autre, selon la nature des impôts, qu'à raison de la part d'actif social qu'elles ont investie sur son territoire, des biens qu'elles y possèdent, des bénéfices qu'elles y réalisent ou des affaires qu'elles y pratiquent.

Ces sociétés, pourront aux mêmes conditions que celles appliquées à la nation la plus favorisée et en se soumettant aux lois du Pays, acquérir toute sorte de biens mobiliers. Il en

sera de même, conformément à l'article 3, pour l'acquisition des biens immeubles nécessaires au fonctionnement de la société, étant entendu que l'acquisition de biens immeubles n'est pas l'objet même de la société.

Art. 11.- Les différends qui viendraient à s'élever entre les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes sur l'interprétation du présent Traité et qui n'auraient pu être résolus par la voie diplomatique seront soumis d'un commun accord, par voie du compromis, à un arbitrage.

Art. 12.- Le présent Traité sera ratifié. Les ratifications en seront échangées au Caire.

Il entrera en vigueur un mois après l'échange des ratifications et demeurera exécutoire pendant trois années. S'il n'a pas été dénoncé six mois avant l'expiration de cette période, il sera prorogé par voie de tacite reconduction et, en ce cas, demeurera exécutoire jusqu'à l'expiration d'un délai de six mois après que l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura notifié à l'autre son intention de le dénoncer.

EN FOI DE QUOI, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé le présent Traité et ont apposé leurs sceaux.

Fait en double expédition à Ankara, le 7 Avril 1937.

(Sceau)
Signé: M. Mufti Gazaerli.

(Sceau)
Signé: Dr. T. R. Aras.

Enclosure No. 3 to despatch No. 630 dated May 6, 1938, from the American Embassy at Ankara, Turkey.

Convention sur la Nationalité conclue entre l'Egypte et la Turquie.

La Majesté le Roi d'Egypte

d'une part, et

Le Président de la République Turque

d'autre part,

considérant comme conforme à leurs intérêts réciproques de régler certaines questions de nationalités des anciens ressortissants ottomans intéressant les deux Etats,

ont résolu de conclure une Convention à cet effet et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires respectifs, à savoir:

Sa Majesté le Roi d'Egypte:

Son Excellence Mohammed El-Mufti El-Gazaerli Bey, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire à Ankara:

Le Président de la République Turque:

Son Excellence Monsieur le Dr. Tevfik Rüstü Aras, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, député d'Izmir;

lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes:

Art. 1.- Les anciens ressortissants ottomans établis en Egypte à la date du 5 novembre 1914 et qui sont d'origine turque nés ou dont le père est né en Turquie, en Egypte, à l'étranger ou dans l'un des territoires détachés de la Turquie en vertu du Traité de Lausanne du 24 juillet 1923, auront, s'ils ont été considérés par l'Egypte comme ayant acquis la nationalité egyptienne, la faculté d'opter pour la nationalité turque.

Toutefois, il est bien entendu que, parmi ces personnes, celles qui sont nées en Egypte et dont le père est également né en Egypte, n'auront pas cette faculté d'option.

Art. 2.- Les anciens ressortissants ottomans qui se sont rendus en Egypte après la date du 5 novembre 1914 conservent leur nationalité turque.

Néanmoins sont considérés comme égyptiens ceux d'entre eux qui ne sont pas d'origine turque et qui avaient acquis la nationalité égyptienne avant l'entrée en vigueur de la présente Convention.

Art. 3.- Les anciens ressortissants ottomans qui bénéficiaient de l'indigéant égyptien et qui étaient établis en Turquie à la date du 5 novembre 1914 sont considérés comme ayant conservé leur nationalité turque.

Toutefois, ceux d'entre eux qui sont nés en Egypte et dont le père est également né en Egypte auront la faculté d'opter pour la nationalité égyptienne.

Art. 4.- Les anciens ressortissants ottomans qui bénéficiaient de l'indigéant égyptien et qui étaient établis à l'étranger à la date du 5 novembre 1914, mais qui sont d'origine turque nés ou dont le père est né en Turquie, en Egypte ou dans l'un des territoires détachés de la Turquie en vertu du Traité de Lausanne du 24 juillet 1923, ayant conservé la nationalité turque, ne seront pas considérés par le Gouvernement Egyptien comme ayant acquis la nationalité égyptienne.

Toutefois, ceux d'entre eux qui sont nés en Egypte et dont le père est également né en Egypte auront la faculté d'opter pour la nationalité égyptienne.

Art. 5.- L'option prévue dans les articles 1, 3 et 4 doit être faite dans le délai d'un an à partir de l'entrée en vigueur de la présente Convention.

En application de l'article 1, l'option seraadressée en Turquie au Ministère de l'Intérieur, en Egypte à la Légation de Turquie et en pays étrangers aux Légations et aux Consulats de Turquie.

En application des articles 3 et 4, l'option doit être adressée en Egypte au Ministère de l'Intérieur, en Turquie à la Légation d'Egypte et en pays étrangers aux Légations ou aux Consulats d'Egypte.

Art. 6.- La nationalité reconnue en vertu des articles 1, 2, 3 et 4 s'étend de plein droit à la femme mariée et aux enfants âges de moins de 18 ans.

Art. 7.- La Légation de Turquie présentera au Ministère des Affaires Egyptien, dans un délai de trois mois après l'expiration du délai prévu à l'article 5, les listes des optants pour la nationalité turque en vertu de l'article 1. Ces listes devront mentionner les noms de la femme et des enfants mineurs.

Après remise des listes précitées, le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères Egyptien s'entendra avec la Légation de Turquie pour le maintien ou la radiation, sur ces listes, des personnes qui y sont inscrites suivant qu'elles remplissent ou non les conditions de l'option, et arrêtera, d'accord avec la Légation, une liste définitive.

Art. 8.- La Légation d'Egypte présentera au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères Turc, dans un délai de trois mois après l'expiration du délai prévu à l'article 5, les listes des optants pour la nationalité égyptienne en vertu des articles 3 et 4. Ces listes devront mentionner les noms de la femme mariée et des enfants mineurs.

Après remise des listes précitées, le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères Turc s'entendra avec la Légation d'Egypte pour la maintien ou la radiation, sur ces listes, des personnes qui y sont inscrites suivant qu'elles remplissent ou non les conditions de l'option, et arrêtera d'accord avec la Légation, une liste définitive.

Art. 9.- Le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères présentera à la Légation de Turquie au Caire, dans un délai de trois mois à partir de l'entrée en vigueur de cette Convention, les listes des personnes qui ont acquis la nationalité égyptienne dans les conditions prévues à l'alinéa 2 de l'article 2. Les listes devront mentionner les noms de la femme et des enfants mineurs.

Après remise des listes précitées, la Légation de Turquie s'entendra avec le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères Egyptien pour le maintien ou la radiation, sur ces listes, des personnes qui y sont inscrites suivant qu'elles remplissent ou non lesdites conditions, et arrêtera, d'accord avec le Ministère, une liste définitive.

Art. 10.- Les listes définitives prévues aux articles précédents pourront être corrigées d'un commun accord s'il venait à être constaté ultérieurement que tel individu inscrit ne remplissait pas les conditions requises.

Art. 11.- La présente Convention sera ratifiée et les ratifications en seront échangées au Caire, aussitôt que faire se pourra. Elle entrera en vigueur un mois après la date de l'échange des ratifications.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé la présente Convention et y ont apposé leurs sceaux.

Fait en double, à Ankara, le 7 Avril 1937.

(Sceau) signé: M. Mufti Gazaerli.

(Sceau) Signé: Dr. T. R. Aras.

Protocole Final.

Les personnes qui ont exercé leur droit d'option conformément aux dispositions de la Convention sur la Nationalité signée à la date de ce jour entre la Turquie et l'Egypte ne seront pas, de ce chef, contraintes à quitter le pays à la nationalité duquel elles ont renoncé et continueront à y bénéficier des droits concédés à leurs autres concitoyens.

Les effets des mesures, des dispositions, des décisions légales, administratives et judiciaires appliquées en Turquie avant l'entrée en vigueur de cette Convention à l'égard des personnes qu'elle considérait comme ses propres ressortissants et dont la nationalité vient d'être déterminée par cette Convention, ainsi qu'à l'égard de leurs biens, resteront acquis. La nouvelle nationalité ainsi reconnue à ces personnes ne modifiera en rien les effets dont il s'agit.

Fait en double, à Ankara, le 7 Avril 1937.

Signé: M. Mufti Gazaerli. Signé: Dr. T. R. Aras.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1938 JUN 25 AM 11 06

Cairo, May 20, 1938.

No. 1293

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Subject: Treaties of Friendship and Establishment, and Nationality Convention Concluded between Egypt and Turkey.

DIVISION OF
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
JUL 5 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
JUL 11 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 28 1938
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-MAC
JUL 1 - 1938
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK Yes No
To the Field
In L. S. A.

TREATY DIVISION
File 67E
JUL 7 - 1938
Copy C/B
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

767.83/16

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Legation's despatch no. 1258 of April 13, 1938, reporting the exchange of ratifications during the recent visit to Egypt of the Turkish Foreign Minister, of a Treaty of Friendship, a Treaty of Establishment, and a Nationality Convention, between Egypt and Turkey. These instruments were signed

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at

at Ankara on April 7, 1937, the exchange of ratifications taking place in Cairo on April 11, 1938.

These agreements have now been published in the authoritative French in Journal Officiel no. 63 of May 19, 1938, a copy of which is being forwarded to the Department under standing instructions. English translations were forwarded by the Legation's despatch no. 974 of April 26, 1937.

The Treaty of Friendship entered into force on April 26, 1938; the Treaty of Establishment and the Nationality Convention on May 11, 1938.

Respectfully yours,

Bert Fish

Bert Fish

In triplicate.
GPM/hbh
File no. 710.

767.8311
767.839 Establishment

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

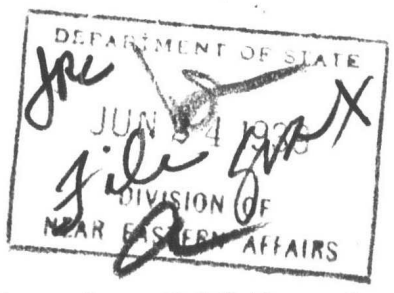
1—1336

EDA
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone (BR)

FROM
ANKARA

Dated June 23, 1939

Received 6:03 p.m.



Secretary of State

Washington

91, June 23, 5 p.m.

Visit of Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Ankara from June 19 to 21 does not appear to have had any political significance. The Embassy understands that the question of Egypt's adherence to Saadabad pact was not (repeat not) under consideration. Conversations which took place covered chiefly ways and means of increasing trade between the two countries and developing cultural relations (exchange of professors et cetera). The Embassy has been informed in confidence that arrangements were made also for the training of Egyptian cadets in Turkey.

British Ambassador has stated to me that there is not (repeat not) the slightest basis for the press report that the formation of a so-called Eastern Mediterranean peace front under British leadership had been discussed. Repeated to Cairo.

KELLEY

CFW:EDA

767.83/17

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Cairo, June 1, 1939.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

No. 1664.

Subject: Projected Visit of the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Turkey.

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1939 JUL 5 PM 2 36
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
JUL 13 1939
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 6 - 1939
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.83/18

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
JUL 14 1939
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

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to the Field
to C. S. A.
Copy to Embassy, Ankara.

Copy Transmitted by The
Commercial Office (A-M/C)
To Ankara
7/15/39

FILED
JUL 16 1939

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that I have learned from a very reliable source that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has been corresponding with Dr. Aras, the Turkish Ambassador to London, with reference to the international situation. Dr. Aras, it will be recalled, at the time of the death of the late Kemal Attaturk was the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey. When Dr. Aras visited here last year the Minister for Foreign Affairs was on various occasions his host. It is my information that

Dr.

Dr. Aras is no longer close to the men in power at Ankara, and it was for this reason that he was made Ambassador to London immediately after the death of Kemal Attaturk. Apparently the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs is uninformed in this regard.

I now learn from this same reliable source that the correspondance with Dr. Aras has revolved around two matters: First, in the event of war would Turkey send troops to Egypt to help to defend the Suez Canal; Second, will the Turkish Government at this time send some officers to act as instructors to the Egyptian army. In order to discuss more in detail the above two matters the Minister for Foreign Affairs contemplates making this trip to Turkey.

Thereupon, it was not surprising to hear announced yesterday afternoon that the Minister for Foreign Affairs would pay an official visit to Turkey shortly. The Egyptian Minister to Turkey, who heretofore had been transferred to Cairo, has now been instructed to remain at his post in Ankara. The Foreign Minister's visit is officially described as a courtesy call in return for the visit paid to Egypt last year by Dr. Aras.

The press of today states that Yehia Pasha may take this opportunity to initiate negotiations for an Egypto-Turkish pact. The Al-Balagh, usually in sympathy with the Government, says: "It is gratifying to note that this visit comes at a time when Egypt and Turkey are both keenly interested in maintaining stability and peace in the Eastern Mediterranean."

Respectfully yours,

Bert Fish

In triplicate
File no. 030/710/820
BF.alw

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Received

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Istanbul, June 28, 1939.

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
JUL 1 1939
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

No. 1124

Subject: Official Visit of Egyptian Foreign Minister to Turkey.

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1939 JUL 11 AM 11 52
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 12 1939
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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to the Press

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
JUL 14 1939
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

FILED
JUL 18 1939

767.83/19

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

With reference to the Embassy's telegram No. 91 of June 23, 5 pm., I have the honor to report that the Egyptian Foreign Minister, Abdulfettah Yahya Pasha, arrived at Istanbul on June 17th on an official visit, the ostensible purpose of which was to repay the visit made to Egypt in 1938 by Dr. Tevfik Rüştü Aras, who was at that time the Turkish Foreign Minister.

He was met on his arrival by the Vali of Istanbul, a delegation from the Turkish Foreign Office, and a military detachment. On June 18th he proceeded to Yalova where he was met by Şükrü Saraçoglu, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and was later received by President Ismet Inönü, who gave a luncheon in his honor. The following day he

arrived

NM

arrived at Ankara where he remained until the evening of June 21st. During his stay in Ankara he engaged in a number of conversations with the President of the Council of Ministers, the Foreign Minister and other officials of the Turkish Government, attended two large evening receptions given by the Turkish Foreign Minister and the Minister of Egypt, respectively, delivered an address to the Turkish people, which was broadcast by radio, visited various government departments, and, as his only unofficial activity of note, attended a luncheon at the Iranian Embassy. Shortly before his departure from Ankara the usual official communiqué was issued, which in translation reads as follows:

> His Excellency, Abdulfettah Yahya Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Egypt, arrived at Ankara on June 19, 1939, to repay the visit made last year by His Excellency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.
>
> He was received at Yalova by His Excellency, the President of the Republic.
>
> The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt has had conversations with the President of the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as well as with other Turkish statesmen.
>
> These conversations, marked by the greatest cordiality, have emphasized the sincere friendship and the perfect understanding which governs the relations between the two countries. The visit has been the occasion of a profound demonstration of the traditional relations between Turkey and Egypt. It constitutes the gauge of a closer and closer collaboration in the future in the different fields and notably in the economic field.

As previously reported no exceptionally important developments seem to have resulted from Abdulfettah's contact with Turkish officials. The only definite agreement reached as far as can be ascertained was that covering the training of a number of Egyptian cadets in Turkey. However, discussions were carried on concerning the possibility of

increasing

increasing trade between the two countries. In this respect one of the proposals under consideration was that of Turkey releasing blocked Egyptian credits in this country in return for which Egypt would grant a preferential tariff treatment for Turkish tobacco. The extension of cultural relations was also under consideration and preliminary plans were made for the establishment of exchange professorships.

While these appear to be the only definite accomplishments resulting from the conversations, which undoubtedly covered the entire field of mutual interests between the two countries, there was prior to the arrival of the Egyptian Foreign Minister and throughout his visit considerable speculation in the press and in governmental and diplomatic circles as to the real purport of the visit. In one quarter or another it was variously reported that Egypt would adhere to the Saadabad Pact, would seek a closer relationship with those countries constituting the Balkan Entente, and with the collaboration of Turkey and under the aegis of Great Britain would form a "peace front" of the Eastern Mediterranean. None of these possibilities appear to have materialized. As regards the Saadabad Pact the Embassy has been reliably informed that (despite the luncheon given to Abdulfettah at the Iranian Embassy which lent credence to the report), the possibility of Egypt's joining the Pact was not considered. It is said that, while Egypt looks with sympathy on the Pact as an instrument tending to preserve the <u>status quo</u> in the Near East and as a unifying factor among the Moslem countries, the geographic position of Egypt, which has no common frontier with any of the signatories to the Pact, is in itself sufficient to make her adherence impractical. The Embassy likewise has reason to believe that the forthcoming visits of Abdulfettah to the Balkan countries are of no particular significance

other

other than that of affording an opportunity for an exchange of views on the general international situation. According to Mr. Arthur Merton, the Cairo Correspondent of the LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH, who came to Ankara to cover the visit of the Egyptian Foreign Minister, the invitations to visit the Balkan capitals were extended only after it had been learned that Abdulfettah was planning to come to Ankara. The B ritish Ambassador to Turkey in a conversation with Mr. Kelley, denied that there was any basis of fact for the report of a proposal to establish a "peace front" in the Eastern Mediterranean under British auspices. It is my opinion that, all rumors to the contrary, the visit of Abdulfettah was, in fact, nothing more than it originally purported to be-- one of courtesy to a friendly power. As an interesting sidelight in this connection it is understood that, shortly before the arrival of the Foreign Minister, the Egyptian Minister to Turkey, apparently himself at a loss to understand the real significance of the visit, inquired of the British Ambassador whether the latter could inform him if any specific proposals were to be discussed. The Ambassador, in turn, was unable to enlighten him on this point.

The Turkish press took full advantage of the presence in Turkey of the Egyptian Foreign Minister to express the mutuality of interests of the two countries, their ties in the past, and their present friendly feeling towards each other. It paid tribute to Egypt and the position she has assumed as an independent nation. Abdulfettah, for his part, missed no oppertunity to comment on the remarkable progress which has been made in Turkey in recent years. In his radio address he evidenc ed his respect for Atatürk and praised the accomplishments of Turkey under his guidance and that of his successor.

After

After his departure from Ankara the Egyptian Foreign Minister spent one day at Istanbul, another at the Turkish resort town of Bursa, and left Istanbul for Bucharest on June 24th.

Respectfully yours,

J. V. A. MacMURRAY

030
RN/rs

COPY TO LEGATION, CAIRO.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bulkeley, Alexandria, June 30, 1939.

No. 1715

Subject: Visit of Egyptian Foreign Minister
To Turkey and Balkans.

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1939 JUL 27 AM 11 22
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

DIVISION OF
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
AUG 10 1939
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 28 1939
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FOR DISTRIBUTION ... Yes No
TO THE FILES
Copy to M.I.D. after
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AUG 4 1939

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
AUG 4 1939
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

767.83/20

FILED
AUG 14 1939

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to my Strictly Confidential Despatch No. 1664 of June 1, 1939, reporting the matter of correspondence between Dr. Rustu Aras and Abdel Fattah Yehia Pasha, Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the announcement made May 31 that the latter would pay an official visit to Turkey, officially described as a courtesy call in return for

the

the visit made by Dr. Aras in Egypt last year. I also refer to Telegram no. 91, June 23, 5 p.m., 1939, from the Embassy at Istanbul.

Though the local press has been full of reports and conjectures that the principal matters which will come up for discussion concern Egypt's adherence to or at least cooperation in the Anglo-Turkish Pact, and Egyptian adherence to the Saadabad Pact, these now appear to be groundless. More truth is believed to exist in the reports that commercial questions affecting the two countries would be discussed, especially that of the reduced quantities of Turkish tobacco imported by Egypt, which have dwindled as a result of increased Egyptian import duties. The recently instituted discussions in London between the Egyptian Ambassador there and the Soviet Ambassador have led some quarters in Cairo to assume that the Egyptian Foreign Minister would also seize the occasion to discuss a possible trade agreement with the Soviet Ambassador in Ankara. This is without confirmation here.

Another press rumor had it that Yehia Pasha would pave the way with the Turkish authorities for a state visit of King Farouk to Turkey, on the ground that when Rustu Aras visited Cairo he had invited the Egyptian sovereigns, in the name of Kemal Ataturk, to visit him in Ankara; and that this visit had been postponed because of Ataturk's illness and death.

The Mission accompanying Yehia Pasha, which departed from Alexandria on June 15 by the Rumanian vessel Bessarabia, was composed of Dr. Abdel Hamid

Badawi

Badawi Pasha, Chief of the State Legal Commission; Mohammed Abdel Khaliq Hassouna Bey, Secretary-General of the Egyptian Foreign Office; and Maitre H. Aziz, Director of the Foreign Minister's Cabinet. The composition of this mission would suggest that if matters of a military nature bearing upon the Anglo-Turkish Pact were to have been discussed, other officials technically more conversant with military affairs would have been selected.

It has moreover been the fashion in years past for prominent Egyptians, especially those with Turkish connections, to visit Istanbul in the summer, as the enclosed article from Al Mokattam would indicate.

I find no grounds for the report circulated here that Turkish officers would be brought to Egypt for purposes of instruction. News to this effect was announced by the Akher Sa'a in Cairo, but other papers denied it. La Bourse Egyptienne of June 19 made the following comments in this connection:

> The Anglo-Egyptian Treaty clearly stipulates that the military mission which is to train the Egyptian Army must be English. It is doubtful that recourse would be had to Turkish officers, whose methods and equipment are different from those of the English Army. The Egyptian forces are armed and trained in such a way as to replace British soldiers immediately and without difficulty, and it is not at this time, when cohesion is more necessary than ever, that training methods are going to be changed. Moreover, the engagement of a Turkish military mission would constitute a modification of the clauses of the Treaty. Legally, this would have to be brought before Parliament.

As

As for adherence to the Saadabad Pact, the Bourse believes that Egypt is interested only indirectly and relatively in the problems of the Middle East, making it doubtful that Egypt would care to mix in questions affecting Iraq, Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan and their common frontiers.

Shortly after the announcement of His Excellency's proposed visit to Ankara, the Governments of Rumania, Greece, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia invited him to extend his tour to their capitals.

The only official information so far published in Egypt concerning Yehia Pasha's visit to Turkey is the following communique issued June 22 by the Foreign Office, and stated to have been simultaneously issued in Turkey:

> "His Excellency Abdel Fattah Yehia Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Egypt, arrived in Ankara on Monday, June 19, to return the visit to Egypt last year of the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs. He met His Excellency the President of the Turkish Republic at Yalova. Discussions took place between Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs and the President of the Turkish Council of Ministers, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and other Turkish statesmen. These discussions, which were characterized by strong cordiality, served as the best indication of the friendship and harmony that characterizes relations between the two countries. The visit has afforded a striking opportunity to display the traditional bonds uniting Egypt and Turkey, and has served as a guarantee for collaboration which will, as time passes, be strengthened in various domains, especially in the economic field."

Greatly

Greatly obscured by the reports and conjectures concerning Egypt's possible relationship to the Anglo-Turkish Pact, and rumored adherence to the Saadabad Pact, - as attention to international relations and the Mediterranean strategic situation is the order of the day, - was one item appearing only in the Arabic Al Ahram and Al Shu'la in regard to the Caliphate. Before the international situation worsened last spring, the Egyptian press devoted a fair amount of attention to the suspected designs of Sheikh Maraghy for reviving the Caliphate in Egypt. Though such ideas can hardly be considered as taken seriously by the average enlightened Moslems in the Near East in general, the fact that King Farouk, when delegates from the Arab countries passed through Cairo last winter en route to the London Conference on Palestine, led them in Friday prayers ("qad qama bilsalat imaman lahum"as the Moslem theological expression has it: "performed the prayers as their Imam") was seized upon in certain quarters of the press as indicative of a step toward the revival of the Caliphate in Egypt. Though Sheikh Maraghy may entertain some such ideas for raising the prestige of Egypt in the Moslem world and incidentally Al Azhar and himself, it is not believed that the King himself is won over to this ambition. However, each time the subject is broached in the press some mention is also made of what Turkey's views might be on the subject. In connection with the Foreign Minister's visit to Turkey, the Cairo weekly Al Shu'la stated that the Caliphate would be among the questions to be discussed

by

by him with the Turkish Government, and referred to the visit made by Sheikh Maraghy to Yehia Pasha shortly before the latter's departure. The Foreign Office promptly issued a denial, stating that the Rector's visit had had nothing to do with the question of the Caliphate, and that it had never even been discussed.

As for Yehia Pasha's tour in the Balkan countries, an official communique has been issued by the Foreign Office only as regards Rumania, stated to have been issued simultaneously in Bucharest:

> "June 20: The official visit which H.E. Abdel Fattah Yehia Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, made to Rumania, offered a new occasion for manifestation of the cordial friendship which unites the two countries.
>
> "In the course of the conversations which took place between His Excellency and Their Excellencies Messrs. Armand Calinescu and Gregoire Gafencu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, as well as those with the members of the Rumanian Government, the two parties expressed their sincere intention to strengthen the friendship and economic relations between the two countries."

There are enclosed some selections of Arabic press comment, omitting the more exaggerated reports.

Respectfully yours,

Bert Fish

5 Enclosures:

1 - Clipping from Egyptian Mail of May 27, 1939.
2 - Translation from Al Mokattam of June 2, 1939.
3 - Translation from Al Ahram of June 13, 1939.
4 - Translation from Al Balagh of June 18, 1939.
5 - Translation from Al Balagh of June 21, 1939.

In triplicate.
File no. 030/710
WSF/hbh

Copy to American Embassy, Ankara.

Enclosure no. 1 to Despatch no. 1715 of June 30, 1939, from the Legation at Bulkeley, Alexandria.

(From the Egyptian Mail of May 27, 1939.)

Commenting on the Anglo-Turkish agreements, Al Balagh writes:

"It is known that one of the conditions of this agreement is that the two Powers should cooperate to defend their interests in the eastern part of the Mediterranean Sea, Britain, with all its forces, defending the sea coast of Turkey, and Turkey, with its land forces, defending Palestine and Egypt as well as the Balkan States which shall have joined the democratic Powers.

"We do not now know how Turkey will defend Egypt; all that has transpired is that Turkey engages to support Palestine and Egypt with a force of twenty-five thousand soldiers. In all probability this support will be by land, that is to say through Syria, and in this case it is probable also that the agreement to be made between Turkey and France will also say that Turkey will help in the defence of Syria.

"We have already said that Egypt welcomes and is glad of this agreement, particularly as it is interested in it - we mean the establishment of peace in the Mediterranean Sea. But is this all there is? Will Egypt be satisfied with the agreement made between Britain and Turkey? Or should the conclusion of this agreement necessitate another measure? In other words, if Turkey will help Egypt, we should like to know on what conditions Egypt will accept this help.

"It seems to us that the reply to this question is that, when the dual agreement has been made, another dual agreement should be concluded between Egypt and Turkey, or a triple agreement between Egypt, Turkey and Britain to form the basis on which Egypt will accept the help of Turkey."

(Al Balagh of May 26, 1939.)

Copied: HBH

Enclosure no. 2 to Despatch no. 1715 of
June 30, 1939, from the Legation at
Bulkeley, Alexandria.

(From Al-Mokattam of June 2, 1939)

Translation

Yesterday we published details of the visit of His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Government of Turkey. We also mentioned the names of those who will accompany the Minister on his visit.

There exist ancient relations between Egypt and Turkey. The politics and Shar' administration came to an end in 1914, when the Republic of Turkey abolished the Caliphate.

Until 1914 Egypt paid Turkey an annual tribute estimated at half a million Turkish pounds. The Ottoman Sultan was represented by a High Commissioner in Egypt. Among those who filled this post was Mukhtar El-Ghazi Pasha, who resided in the Palace known as El-Ismailia, near Midan Khedive Ismail. The Ottoman Sultan used to appoint a judge in Egypt as head of the Shar' courts.

When Turkey came in on the side of Germany during the last war, the posts of the High Commissioner and his suite and the Shar' judge of Egypt were abolished, and Egypt ceased to pay the annual tribute. Great Britain then declared that the Sultan's rights would be transferred to her.

After the war the Egyptians followed developments in Turkey with great interest. The Egyptians regret what happened to Turkey through the resistance of the Unified Leaders. But when Mustapha Kamal and his colleagues appeared and declared that they must work hard to restore the glorious history of their country, the Egyptians were pleased and wished them all success. Had the Turks not abolished the Caliphate they would have been more respected by the Egyptians, who are known to be keen fanatics.

Then it was decided to change the Arabic letters to Latin letters and abolish the tarboosh and turban, replacing them by hats. The Egyptians and other Orientals thought that the Turks wished to be separated from the East and to come into contact with the West. At that time few Egyptians used to visit Istanbul to spend the summer there.

But Egyptians are proud of modern Turkey and its renaissance. They hope that Egypt may follow the same path as Turkey.

When the former Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs visited Egypt he was met with a warm welcome. Treaties of friendship and residence were concluded between the two countries.

Turkey has made great efforts for the creation of the Balkan Pact for peace. Also Turkey worked hard for the conclusion of the Saadabad Pact between herself and Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan. This Pact indicated that Turkey was not trying to turn her back on the East, but understands the value to be derived from the strengthening of relations with the nations of the East.

We

We do not know the aims of the visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Ankara and Istanbul except to return the visit of the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs. However, it will be to the benefit of Egypt and Turkey to become better acquainted, especially after their efforts towards reform, improvement and civilization.

Trans. ss

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Enclosure no. 3 to Despatch no. 1715 of June 30, 1939, from the Legation at Bulkeley, Alexandria.

(From Al Ahram of June 13, 1939.)

CONCLUSION OF A COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN EGYPT AND TURKEY.

We learn that among the most important matters to be discussed by His Excellency Abdel Fattah Yehia Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, during his visit to Turkey, is the question of the tobacco imported by Egypt from Turkey every year.

It is known that the Turkish Government has filed a complaint on this subject regarding the continued reduction in the amount of tobacco exported from Turkey to Egypt, because of the high customs duties imposed on it.

It is expected that negotiations will take place for the conclusion of a commercial treaty for the benefit of both countries and to balance their mutual trade, which is today far from equilibrated.

Translated: SS
Copied: HBH

Enclosure no. 4 to Despatch no. 1715 of June 30, 1939, from the Legation at Bulkeley, Alexandria.

(From Al Balagh of June 18, 1939.)

Abdul Fattah Yehia Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has sailed for Istanbul, whence he will go to Ankara to return the visit paid to Egypt last year by Dr. Rushdi Aras, former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Turkey. This visit of our Minister has a peculiar significance in the present conditions, and will have, it is hoped, excellent results, particularly as more than one Balkan and Eastern European State has invited him to pay them a visit.

The Turkish newspapers have welcomed this visit and referred to the ancient historical ties between Turkey and Egypt, adding that it will lay down stronger foundations in keeping with present conditions which interest both countries.

The Turkish newspapers thus echo the sentiments already expressed by the Egyptian press. There is no doubt that Egypt and Turkey are sister nations, in spite of Turkish misrule in the old days - a rule which injured Turkey more than Egypt. It weakened the country until it was saved by the younger generation under the leadership of the late Kemal Ataturk. Thanks to these heroes Turkey realized her ambitions, put her house in order, and in a few years was restored to a position among the strong progressive nations.

Egypt, likewise, has been successful in her foreign policy. She now comes forward whenever matters of concern to her are considered, and is respected by all nations. It is true that respect is usually due to force, and although Egypt has not enough force to inspire respect, the credit is really due to the men of the present regime and to their personal qualifications.

The most recent demonstration of Egypt's outstanding position among the nations is the visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Turkey and to the other states which have invited him. Our Minister will discuss with them all matters of common interest. We need hardly add that Egypt wants peace to rule among the nations, because it wishes to be on friendly terms with all Powers in order to go on with reforms and to share in the service of world civilization. The visit of our Minister of Foreign Affairs cannot annoy any nation, he merely wishes to strengthen our relations, and to cooperate in a friendly manner. There is no truth, therefore,

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in the statement made by an Italian newspaper that Britain wishes to use Egypt in the movement of encirclement of the axis Powers. There is no secret here, and the treaty between Britain and Egypt is deposited with the League of Nations. This treaty speaks of defensive cooperation only. Britian is making a front to maintain peace and prevent aggression. Moreover, the object of our Minister's visit is clear, and he has been invited to visit these countries.

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Enclosure no. 5 to Despatch no. 1715 of June 30, 1939, from the Legation at Bulkeley, Alexandria.

(From Al Balagh of June 21, 1939)

EGYPT AND THE SAADABAD PACT

Commenting upon the report that the Egyptian Foreign Minister is conducting negotiations during his visit to Turkey for the conclusion of a pact, Al Balagh writes:

The Saadabad Pact, as is well known, is one that binds Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan, in a kind of defensive alliance. The interests of the four Moslem powers are identical, and although Turkey occupies a position of leadership in the Pact in view of her progress from many points of view, she looks upon the alliance as a guarantee of peace in the Near East.

The interests of these powers are not in any way contrary to those of Egypt. The most friendly relations exist today between Egypt on the one side and Turkey, Iraq and Afghanistan on the other, and it would come as no surprise if Egypt were to join the Pact.

German Intrigue.

Referring to the voyage of the Egyptian Minister, the Deutsche Nachrichten Bureau alleges that Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan are opposed to the recent Anglo-Turkish Pact as they consider it to be a source of danger to their neutrality.

This is certainly German propaganda intended to undermine the perfect understanding among the four signatories of the Saadabad Agreement, to whom Egypt may be added.

Furthermore, the allegation that Britain is anxious to induce Egypt to take part in the so-called encirclement of the Axis powers is certainly unfounded.

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LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS SEP 4 1939 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF CURRENT INFORMATION SEP 8 - 1939 Department of State

Alexandria, July 28, 1939.

No. 1746.

Subject: Return of Egyptian Foreign Minister from Turkey and Balkans Tour.

RECEIVED DEPARTMENT OF STATE 1939 AUG 24 PM 1 32

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE File AUG 25 1939 DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS MR. DUNN AUG 29 1939 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

A-M/C
RECORDING DESK
FILE-C.S.

Copy to Cairo

AUG 31 1939

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A-M/C AUG 30 1939 ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

767.83/21

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that His Excellency Abdul Fattah Yehia Pasha returned from his tour of Turkey and the Balkans (reported in my strictly confidential despatch no. 1664 of June 1, and despatch no. 1715 of June 30) and resumed charge of the Foreign Office on July 19, 1939.

Shortly after his return the Foreign Minister granted an interview to Al Ahram, in which he stressed the warm welcome

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welcome he had received in Turkey and the Balkans as indicative of these countries' appreciation of Egypt, and a factor in strengthening Egypt's trade relations with them. Asked whether there was any truth in rumors of a military alliance between Egypt and Turkey, Yehia Pasha replied in the negative, but added:

> "The good relations and friendship existing between Egypt and Turkey and their wish for commercial and economic cooperation are, in my opinion, no less than an alliance."

He explained that the discussions he had engaged in had centered upon the development of trade relations and equalization of Egypt's unfavorable trade balance with Turkey and the Balkans. The Bourse Egyptienne of July 23 reports that the Foreign Minister, before departing for Turkey, consulted reports from the Egyptian Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which showed that Egypt buys more from each of the countries he visited than any of them buys from Egypt, and that the trade balance is especially unfavorable to Egypt in its trade with Rumania, as a result of the latter country's controlled currency. The Bourse believes that an agreement in principle was reached whereby a clearing system will be established to permit Egypt to cash in on accounts for merchandise exported to Rumania and long overdue. The Ministry of Commerce, it is reported, now desires to open a campaign to intensify Egyptian exports to the countries visited by Yehia Pasha in order to reduce the completely unfavorable balance under which Egypt now stands.

Although rumors of Egyptian collaboration with Turkey on a military basis and questions of military alliance have

been

been consistently denied, it is now reported that an Egyptian Military Mission will visit Ankara in August, while a Turkish Military Mission will visit Egypt on a date not yet fixed.

Respectfully yours,

Bert Fish

Bert Fish

In triplicate.
file no. 030/802.1
WSF/icg

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bulkeley, Alexandria, July 28, 1939.

No. 1747

Subject: Exchange Visits of Egyptian and Turkish Military Missions.

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1939 AUG 24 PM 1 40
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
AUG 29 1939
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 26 1939
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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AUG 30 1939

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A.M.S.
AUG 24 1939
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

767.83/21

I have the honor to refer to my despatch No. 1746 of July 28, 1939, concerning the return of the Egyptian Foreign Minister from his recent tour of Turkey and the Balkans.

Although persistent rumors of Turco-Egyptian military cooperation, and even alliances, have been officially denied, it is now reported that the Egyptian Ministry of National Defense has decided to send to Ankara in July

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July a military mission consisting of fifteen senior officers of various arms of the Egyptian Army, for the purpose of visiting military institutions, inspecting Dardanelles fortifications and attending Turkish Army maneuvers. The mission is, according to present news, to be headed by the Lewa Salih Harb Pasha, Director of the Egyptian Coast Guard Administration. The Lewa's appointment as head of the mission is stated to be pending confirmation by the King.

Similarly, it is reported that a Turkish Military Mission will visit Egypt at a later date, not yet determined, and will attend Egyptian Army maneuvers and visit the western desert defenses, as well as the Royal Military College and other Egyptian military institutions.

The press reports that these reciprocal visits are intended to strengthen relations between the Egyptian and Turkish Armies in the interest of universal peace.

Respectfully yours,

Bert Fish

Bert Fish

Copy to:

American Embassy, Istanbul.

In triplicate.
File no. 820
WSF/hbh

Central File: Decimal File 767.83, Political Relations Of States, Relations; Bi-Lateral Treaties., Turkey And Egypt, Dec. 14, 1932 - July 28, 1939. December 14, 1932 - July 28, 1939. MS Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States: Records of the U.S. Department of State, 1930-1944: Records of the Department of State Relating to Political Relations of Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States, 1930-1939. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5111394309%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 21 June 2025.